A.·.A.·.O.·.N.·.M.·.S.·.

MECCA

THE PARENT TEMPLE.



THE FOUNDERS OF THE SHRINE IN AMERICA, AND FIRST OFFICIALS OF THE ORDER.

MECCA TEMPLE

ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER

OF THE

NOBLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE

ITS HISTORY AND PLEASURES

TOGETHER WITH THE

ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE ORDER

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ANCIENT ARABIC ORDER

OF THE

NOBLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE:

ITS ORIGIN AND HISTORY.

COMPILED AND COLLATED

BY

ILL.·. NOBLE DR. WALTER M. FLEMING, 33°,

AND

ILL.·. NOBLE WILLIAM S. PATERSON, 33°.

THE ORDER of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine was instituted by the Mohammedan Kalif Alee (whose name be praised!), the cousin-german and son-in-law of the Prophet Mohammed (God favor and preserve him!), in the year of the Hegira 25 (A. D. 644), at MECCA, in Arabia, as an Inquisition, or Vigilance Committee, to dispense justice and execute punishment upon criminals who escaped their just deserts through the tardiness of the courts, and also to promote religious toleration among cultured men of all nations. The original intention was to form a band of men of sterling worth, who would, without fear or favor, upon a valid accusation, try, judge, and execute, if need be, within the hour, having taken precautions as to secrecy and security.

The "Nobles" perfected their organization, and did such prompt and efficient work that they excited alarm and even consternation in the hearts of the evil doers in all countries under the Star and Crescent.

The Order is yet one of the most highly favored among the many secret societies which abound in Oriental countries, and gathers around its shrines a select few of the best educated and cultured classes. Their ostensible object is to increase the faith and fidelity of all true believers in Allah

(whose name be exalted!). The secret and real purpose can only be made known to those who have encircled the Mystic Shrine according to the instructions in "The Book of the Constitution and the Regulations of the Imperial Council."

Its membership in all countries includes Christians, Israelites, Moslim, and men in high positions of learning and of power. One of the most noted patrons of the Order was the late Khedive of Egypt (whose name be revered!), whose inclination toward Christians is well known.

The Nobles of the Mystic Shrine are sometimes mistaken for certain orders of the dervishes, such as those known as the Hanafeeyeh, Rufaeeyeh, Sadireeyeh, and others, either howling, whirling, dancing or barking; but this is an error. The only connection the Order ever had with any sect of dervishes was with that called the Bektash. This warlike sect undertook to favor and protect the Nobles in a time of great peril, and have ever since been counted among its most honored patrons.

The famous Arab known as Bektash, from a peculiar high white hat or cap which he made from a sleeve of his gown, the founder of the sect named in his honor, was an imam in the army of the Sultan Amurath I., the first Mohammedan who led an army into Europe, A. D. 1360 (in the year of the Hegira, 761). This Sultan was the founder of the military order of the Janizaries (so called because they were freed captives who were adopted into the faith and the army), although his father, Orkhan, began the work. Bektash adopted a white robe and cap, and instituted the ceremony of kissing the sleeve.

The Bektash Dervishes are numbered by many hundred thousands, and they have several branches or offshoots, which are named after the founder of each. Among the most noted are those which have their headquarters in Cairo, in Egypt; Damascus and Jerusalem, in Palestine; Smyrna and Broosa, in Asia Minor; Constantinople and Adrianople, in Turkey in Europe; Teheran and Shiraz, in Persia; Benares and many other cities in India; Tangier, in Morocco; Oran, in Algeria, and at MECCA, in Arabia, at which latter city all branches and sects of Dervishes are represented at the annual meeting, which is held during the month of pilgrimage.

The Bektasheeyeh's representative at Mecca is a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, is the chief officer of the Alee Temple of Nobles, and in 1877 was the Chief of the Order in Arabia. The Chief must reside either at Mecca or Medinah, and in either case must be present in person or by deputy at Mecca during the month of pilgrimage.

The Egyptian Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine has been independent of the Arabian, excepting the yearly presence of the Deputy in Mecca, since the expedition of Ibraheem Pasha, the son of Mohammed Alee, the great Pasha of Egypt in 1818, when the Wahabees were conquered.

The Wahabees were a fanatical sect who threatened to override all other power in Arabia. Since Ibraheem's conquest they have continued only as a religious sect, without direct interference with the government. They are haters and persecutors of all other sects, and are especially bitter against all dervishes, whom they denounce as heretics and the very essence of heresy and abomination. In this conduct they violate a strict and oft-repeated saying of the Prophet Mohammed (God favor and protect him!), which is, "He who casts on a believer the slur of infidelity is himself an infidel."

All Mohammedans respect every one who has made a pilgrimage to Mecca, and who will repeat the formula of the creed, "There is no Deity but Allah," without reference to what his private belief may be, for they have a maxim, "The interior belongs to God alone."

The Nobles of the Mystic Shrine are eminent for their broad and catholic toleration. The Noble who holds to a belief in a SUPREME or MOST HIGH is never questioned as to any definition of that belief. The finite cannot define the infinite, although it may be conscious of its existence.

The character of the Order as it appears to the uninitiated is that of a politico-religious society. It is really more than such a society could be; and there are hidden meanings in its simplest symbols that take hold on the profoundest depths of the heart. We may illustrate by an example. There are rays of light about the Sphinx and Pyramid. Each ray is numbered and has its appropriate signification. In general, Light is the symbol of intelligence. Through intelligence the world is governed, and the spread of knowledge renders crime and meanness unprofitable, and, through the scheme of the Order, impossible for the criminal to escape just punishment.

Among the modern promoters of the principles of the Order in Europe, one of the most noted was Herr Adam Weishaupt, a Rosicrucian (Rosy Cross Mystic), and professor of law in the University of Ingolstadt, in Bavaria, who revived the Order in that city on May 1, 1776. Its members exercised a profound influence before and during the French Revolution, when they were known as the Illuminati, and they professed to be teachers of philosophy; to ray forth from their secret society the light of science over all mankind without fear or favor; to diffuse the purest principles of virtue; in short, restating the teachings of Aristotle, Pythagoras, Plato, Confucius, and other philosophers. From the central society at Ingolstadt branches spread out through all Europe. Among the members there are recorded the names of Frederick the Great, Mirabeau, a Duke of Orleans, many members of royal families, literary, scientific, and professional men, including the illustrious Goethe, Spinoza, Kant, Lord Bacon, and a long list besides, whose works enlarge and free the mind from the influence of dogma and prejudice.

Frequent revolutions in Arabia, Persia, and Turkey have obscured the Order from time to time, as appears from the many breaks in the continuity of the records at Mecca, but it has as often been revived. Some of the most notable revivals are those at Mecca and Aleppo in A.D. 1698 (A.H. 1110), and at Cairo in A. D. 1837 (A. H. 1253), the latter under the protection of the Khedive of Egypt, who recognized the Order as a powerful means of civilization.

Among the renowned patrons of the Order in Arabia was the Imam or Shayk Abu il-Barakat Abd-Ullah Ibn Ahmad Alnasafi, well known among scholars by his title of Hafiz-uddeen, and who died A.D. 1330 (A.H. 731).

Arabic writers say of him that he was "the scientific and learned Imam, the lord of the ingenuous and the gifted prince, the support of the excellent, a rare example of manly virtue in the ages, our eyes never beheld his equal, our lord the teacher and guardian of our Order."

The poet Hafiz is honored in Persia as Byron is in England, and their works are similar in many respects, treating of wine and women with an unequalled richness of vocabulary and ideality. Strict Mohammedans reject the writings of Hafiz as too suggestive, but yet he is more widely read than any other writer in the East by members of the Order, who alone can fully appreciate the many secret allusions in his verse.

In the year A.D. 804, during a warlike expedition against the Byzantine emperor Nikephorus, the most famous Arabian Kalif, Haroon al-Rasheed, deputed a renowned scholar, Abd el-Kader el-Bagdadee, to proceed to Aleppo, Syria, and found a college there for the propagation of the religion of the Prophet Mohammed (God favor and preserve him!). The work and college arose, and the Order of Nobles was revived there as a part of the means of civilization.

Nearly three centuries after the death of the great Kalif and patron of learning, the Order of Nobles was revived at Bagdad by Abd el-Kader Ghilanee, a noted Persian, an eminent doctor of the Soofi sect, A. H. 555 (A.D. 1160).

Among the traditions of the Order occurs this very significant record : ' In no single instance has the government in any country ventured openly to oppose the silent, secret workings of the 'Nobles,' although the secret agents of the government are always present and exercise a careful surveillance in every 'Mystic Temple.'"

The leading spirits of the Order are found in every circle of the higher classes, even including the functionaries of government, and exert an influence in proportion to their position, dangerous to the vicious, beneficial to the virtuous.

The Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in America does not advocate Mohammedanism as a sect, but inculcates the same respect to Deity here as

in Arabia and elsewhere, and hence the secret of its profound grasp on the intellect and heart of all cultured people.

The Ritual now in use is a translation from the original Arabic, found preserved in the archives of the Order at Aleppo, Syria, whence it was brought, in 1860, to London, England, by Rizk Allah Hassoon Effendee, who was the author of several important works in Arabic, one of which was a metrical version of the Book of Job. His "History of Islam" offended the Turkish government because of its humanitarian principles, and he was forced to leave his native country. He was a ripe scholar in Arabic poetry and the general literature of the age, and his improvements in the diction of certain parts of the ritual of the Shrine are of great beauty and value.

In the year 1698 the learned Orientalist Luigi Marracci, who was then just completing his great works, "The Koran in Latin and Arabic, with Notes," and "The Bible in Arabic," at Padua, in Italy, was initiated into our Order of Nobles, and found time to translate the ritual into Italian. The initiated will be able to see how deeply significant this fact is when the history of the Italian society of the "Carbonari" is recalled. The very existence of Italian Unity and Liberty depended largely on the "Nobles," who were represented by Count Cavour, Mazzini, Garibaldi, and the King Victor Emanuel.

Although Marracci was confessor to his Holiness Pope Innocent XI. for several years, yet he was censured by the College of the Propaganda at Rome for having aided and abetted the work of a secret society, and the book was condemned to be burnt. A few copies were saved, and one is still preserved in the library of the Synagogue which stands just inside the ancient Roman gate of the city of Babloon, called by the Arabs Fostat in the Middle Ages, and now known as Old Cairo.

In making the present version the translator has had the benefit of the work of Alnasafi, of Marracci, and of Hassoon. The rendering is literal where the idiom permitted, except where a local reference required the substitution of American for Oriental names of cities.

The work was perfected in August, 1870, under the supervision of Dr. Walter M. Fleming, 33°, Sovereign Grand Inspector General, A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite, and Past Eminent Commander of Columbian Commandery, No. 1, Knights Templar, New York, who received his instructions and authority from Rizk Allah Hassoon Effendee, who had competent jurisdiction for America.

The Ritual is known in Arabia as "The Pillar of Society," which is an honorary title given only to persons of very great distinction in the service of truth, justice, and mercy, and the support of learning and culture, and was by courtesy attached to this work as originally written by the renowned Alnasafi the Hafiz, the Persian poet.

The salutation of distinction among the Faithful is, "Es Salamu Aleikum!"—"Peace be with you!"—to which is returned the gracious wish, "Aleikum es Salaam!"—"With you be Peace!"



The Jewel of the Order is a Crescent, formed of any substance. The most valued materials are the claws of the Royal Bengal tiger, united at their bases in a gold setting which includes their tips, and bears on one side of the centre the head of a sphinx, and on the other a pyramid, urn, and star; with the date of the wearer's reception of the Order, and the motto,

Arabic, "Kuwat wa Ghadab."
Latin, "Robur et Furor."
English, "Strength and Fury."

The crescent has been a favorite religious emblem in all ages in the Orient, and also a political ensign in some countries, such as in modern Turkey and Persia. The ancient Greeks used the crescent as an emblem of the universal Mother of all living things, the Virgin Mother of all souls, who was known as Diana, Artemis, Phœbe, Cynthia, and other names, varying with the character of her attributes in different localities. The chief seat of the Diana cult and worship was at Ephesus, and the great temple built in her honor at that city was the pride and glory of the Greeks.



OFFICERS OF MECCA TEMPLE, MYSTIC SHRINE, NEW YORK, 1894.

The secret knowledge symbolized by the crescent has always had its devotees, in every age, in all civilized countries, and it is yet the master-key to all wisdom. The Greek philosopher Plato, when asked the source of his knowledge, referred to Pythagoras. If we consult the writings of Pythagoras, we shall find that he points to the far East, whence he derived his instruction. In imitation of the humility of the wisest of mankind, we look to the East for light, and find placed there the beautiful emblem of new-born light, the CRESCENT.

This is yet only a symbol, and refers to a higher and purer source, the great fountain of light, the SUN, which is also an emblem of the Great First Cause, of Light and Intelligence. Thus do we lead the mind of the initiate step by step from the sterile and shifting sand of the desert, which typifies ignorance and darkness, into the halls of science, the chambers of culture, until he stands in the presence of the emblem of Light and Intelligence, in possession of the key that will open to the diligent inquirer every truth in nature's wide domain.

For esoteric reasons we hang the horns pointing downward, representing the setting moon of the old faith at the moment of the rising sun of the new faith in the brotherhood of all mankind—the essential unity of humanity as of one blood, the children of one fatherhood.

This use of the crescent is not to be confounded with that made in the "Order of the Crescent," which was established by Sultan Selim III., soon after his accession in 1789, and which is conferred on Christians chiefly for eminent merit or services to the Turkish government.

The Turkish military order called the "Order of the Mejidié" also uses the crescent, not simply, but combined with a sun and seven triple rays, and was instituted in August, 1852.

The constitutional authority for promulgating the principles and practice of the Order was confided to Dr. WALTER M. FLEMING, 33°, and his associates, WILLIAM J. FLORENCE, 32°, EDWARD EDDY, 33°, JOHN W. SIMONS, 33°, SHERWOOD C. CAMPBELL, 32°, OSWALD MERLE D'AUBIGNÉ, 32°, JAMES S. CHAPPELL, 32°, JOHN A. MOORE, 32° (the last seven have since entered the Unseen Temple, and the following five are living, 1893), CHARLES T. MCCLENACHAN, 33°, ALBERT P. MORIARTY, 33°, DANIEL SICKELS, 33°, GEORGE W. MILLAR, 33°, and WILLIAM S. PATERSON, 33°, together with ALBERT L. RAWSON, 32°, the Arabic Translator, all prominent Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Masons and Knights Templar of New York, N. Y., who instituted the first Temple of the Order in that city under the title of "Mecca Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine," on September 26, 1872.

Ill.·. Walter M. Fleming, 33°, was chosen its presiding officer, who is called "The Shayk, or the Ancient." and also the Illustrious Potentate.

He is known in the Persian temples as "The Shayk Alee," that is to say, the Supreme Shayk. Ill.·. William S. Paterson, 33°, was elected the Recorder.

On June 6, 1876, "The Imperial Council for North America" was formed, and the first officers were elected, as in Arabia, for the term of three years. Ill.·. Walter M. Fleming became Imperial Potentate, and Ill.·. W. S. Paterson, Imperial Recorder. (For particulars see "The Constitution of the Imperial Council" and the Annual Proceedings.)

The prerequisite for membership in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America is the 32° A.·. A.·. S.·. Rite (18° in England), or a Knight Templar, in good standing.

The generous proposition to make the Order of Nobles an organization for the exercise of charity, the improvement of the mind, and an ally of the Fraternity of Freemasonry in the United States, was primarily adopted by the Imperial Council.

Subordinate Temples have been chartered in nearly every State of the Union, by dispensation or in other constitutional manner, under the authority of the Imperial Council.

السلام عليكم

LEGENDS OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

According to the ancient ritualistic provisions in the Shrine's history, it was evidently established as a politico-religious Order, and destined to become a formidable Oriental power, its mission being to aid the distressed, comfort the afflicted, protect the innocent, harmonize rank and station, overthrow fanaticism, obliterate intolerance, bring the guilty to justice, and perpetuate the welfare of mankind. Thus they become the exponents of a secret tribunal to judge and punish the traitor, the murderer, the despoiler of innocence, the violator and desecrator of sacred vows; to apprehend, judge, and execute at one conclave, striking terror to the destroying element of crime by consigning the condemned to the rack, bowstring, or pyre of the Shrine, their fleet justice leaving a purifying admonition to those who knew not the fate of the departed. "The Legendary History of the Oriental Shrine" thus depicts one phase of the secret tribunal: "The grave, stern, and masked tribunal sits in solemn council; their terrible meditations and intent none could penetrate; their purpose was as undecipherable as their identity. The culprit, defiant of their secret power, when loosed from his hempen thongs, appears, arraigned for judgment, and stands before the piercing gaze of the Tribunal, with its all-powerful 'Council of Thirteen,' doggedly sullen and undismayed by the array of block, bowstring, rack, and blazing crucibles. If guilty, he neither seeks nor expects mercy, knowing that mercy for the impious prevails not here. Their cause is justice. The palpable proofs of guilt being sure, the result is as immutable as God's decree. But still does he his innocence protest. The frowning Council grant one last privilege, a final proof to justify his plea by his Moslem faith. If so he dare, he advances alone to the sacred dais, and in token of his innocence embraces the Holy Nymph of Paradise, 'The Houri of the Shrine.' With joyous pace the victim hastens to the colossal statue, where in marvellous grandeur, by crafty hand beauteously carved in stone, with outstretched arms and saintly face, sweet with calm serenity, she stands, seeming even to pity from her throne. The mystic form he scarce embraces, when, quick as transit of a meteor, he finds his frail body wrapped as in a vice. Those horrid arms, with keen and triple-edged blades, nail him, powerless and quivering, to her lance-clad breast, with deadly and unerring power, until, crushed, carved and gory, the expiring form is rent asunder. The Houri statue swerves apart, relaxing her fiendish grasp of stone, and hurls the riven victim deep into the hideous engulfing trap below, where, grim, dark, and loathsome, may be heard the distant and monotonous rippling of the turbid carnadine waters, echoing from the eternal chasm of the dead. The tribunal has done its duty. Retribution has fallen upon the fated malefactor, and the vengeance of the Shrine is satisfied."

This is but one of the storied mysteries of the Oriental Shrine.

اشراف المسجد سرّي

"BILLY" FLORENCE'S INTEREST IN THE ORDER.

The details of the introduction of the Order into America are found in the published "History."

The late William J. Florence, the popular comedian, is concededly one of the first two founders of the Order in America, the other being Dr. Walter M. Fleming, of New York, who presided over Mecca Temple (the first Temple) nearly seventeen years, and was first Imperial Potentate of the Imperial Council, over which he also presided for about twelve years.

The popular story is that, while on a tour of the Old World in 1870, the actor made the acquaintance of Yusef Churi, the famous orientalist. Florence seems to have won that scholar's esteem as rapidly as he did that of occidentals who were thrown under the spell of his companionship, and Yusef presented him to the Sultan, who was the head of the Order in the East at the time. That potentate was likewise charmed with the American's good fellowship, and through his influence Florence was inducted into the mysteries at an Egyptian temple in Cairo. Through that connection with the Order he was enabled to secure a copy of the ritual, which he had translated from the Arabic into French, and then from the French into English. On his return to New York he used that ritual in founding Mecca Temple. So runs popular belief and current newspaper history.

In 1882, when it was proposed to put the proceedings of the American body into printed form, Mr. Florence wrote a letter, which he apparently intended should give an account of his first glimpse into the Shrine and relate how he obtained the ritual. The following extract is pertinent to this article :

"In August, 1870, I was in the city of Marseilles, France, and having occasion to call on Duncan, Sherman & Co., bankers, I was told by one of the gentlemanly clerks that there was to be a ceremony of unusually attractive character at a hall near the Grand Hotel de l'Univers, and, knowing me to be a Mason, invited me to be present, offering to be my guide and voucher. My curiosity was excited by his glowing hints as to the initial wonders to be seen there.

"Having been introduced to the anteroom of the hall in which the Mystic Shrine was concealed, I found a number of distinguished persons in animated conversation on the subject of our visit. One of these men was the British consul, another the Austrian vice-consul, and there were dukes and counts, bankers and merchants, scholars and artists, musicians and other professionals, all of whom seemed absorbed in the question of how the French of Marseilles had succeeded in getting possession of such interesting secrets.

"The Illustrious Potentate of the evening was the celebrated Yusef Churi Bey, and the temple was called Bokhara Shrine. Shayk Yusef had visited Bokhara, where he was made a member of the Mystic Shrine in that famous city of the Persians, and brought away a hastily written sketch of the ritual and laws of the Order.

"It would be impossible to give a complete narrative of the ceremonies of that communication of the Nobles of Bokhara Shrine, and I must content myself with a mere outline. The costumes were exact duplicates of oriental patterns brought from Persia by Yusef Bey. In his long service as an attaché of the Persian consulate he had seen many countries, and profited by studies and observation in each, and was, therefore, well fitted to conduct such an institution.

"The furniture of the temple was the most peculiar I ever saw, and must have been gotten up by some one well skilled in stage scenery, for there were very well contrived dramatic effects, representing the sandy seashore, the rough, rocky hillside, the gloomy cavern, the solemn tomb, and a transformation scene which was at first a cemetery full of tombs and monuments inscribed with the names of the departed, with epitaphs on their virtues and worth, when in an instant, the lights having been lowered, the scene changed to a sumptuous banqueting hall, with small tables for groups of three, five, seven and nine.

"I need not describe the work of the temple any further than to say that the intention is to enact a drama very much like our own, which had for its object the same lesson, and there can be no better or more zealous workers in a good cause than those French brothers who celebrated the mysteries at Marseilles on that evening.

"My duties prevented a sufficiently long stay in Marseilles to witness a second performance, and I therefore begged Yusef Bey to allow me to have a copy of the ritual and laws, which I received on the day I sailed for Algiers.

"In Algiers the Shrine of the Mogribins was in full operation, meeting each week on Friday evening. Abu Mohammed Baki was the shayk, and among the members were nearly every one of the many consuls, vice-consuls and other diplomats of the port, many of the most noted merchants and bankers, and not a few of the learned and gifted Mohammedans, who

are passionately fond of perpetuating ancient customs which increase their social pleasures. The costumes and furniture of the Shrine in Algiers were gorgeous in silk, wool, and fine linen, decorated with embroidery in gold, silver, and colors ; and the sword, spears, and other articles used by the guards and officers in the work were genuine steel, many of which had been in actual service in the field of battle.

"The Shrine is referred to by the Moslems generally as 'The Order of the Unwritten Law,' in distinction from 'The Written Law,' which is the Koran."

This letter of the dead actor seems to indicate whence he got the ritual which he brought to America, but it does not clearly explain how deep he dipped into the mysteries of the Order in the Orient. A few months before Florence died Grand Secretary Parvin, of Iowa, submitted to him a newspaper clipping stating, among other things, that he was initiated at Cairo. The actor wrote in response :

"The points in the paper are mainly correct. I was the first to introduce the Order in America. Dr. Fleming amplified and perfected the work."

Dr. Fleming furnishes the following authoritative statement for this sketch :

"Mr. Florence was entertained as a Mason at Marseilles, in Bokhara Temple of the Arabic Bektash. He at this time simply witnessed the opening session of the exoteric ceremonials which characterize the politico-religious order of Bektash of Oriental Europe. A monitorial, historic and explanatory manuscript be also received there. It did not embrace the esoteric, inner temple exemplification or obligation, nor the 'unwritten law,' which is never imparted to any one except from mouth to ear. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Florence was similarly favored in Algiers and Aleppo. Through letters and commendations he finally secured the manuscript monitor, history and descriptive matter from which sprang the Order in this country. It was in Algiers and Aleppo that he was received into the inner temple under the domain of the crescent, and first became possessor of the esoteric work, the 'unwrittrn law,' and the shayk's obligation. Subsequently he visited Cairo, Egypt, and was admitted, and collected more of oriental history and the manuscript of 'Memorial Ceremonials.' But Mr. Florence was never fully recognized or possessed of authority until long after his return to America. All he possessed was a disconnected series of sheets in Arabic and French, with some marginal memoranda made by himself from verbal elucidation in Aleppo. Through Prof. Albert L. Rawson, these, with others received afterwards through correspondence abroad, comprised the translations from which the Order started here. Mr. Florence and myself received authority to introduce the Order in America."

Celebration of Moharrum, or the Arabic New Year.—Commemoration of the Beginning of the Fourteenth Century, A. H. 1301, November 1, 1883.—Interesting Ceremonies.

The ceremonies which characterize the august event which is now being observed by the high dignitaries and chiefs of Temples of the Mystic Shrine, not only in this city, but throughout the jurisdiction of the Imperial Council of the Order here, as well as in Oriental Europe, are described by Noble W. M. Fleming as follows—

"The observance of the annual ceremonies of hailing the Arabic New Year is imposing, but the rare privilege of participating in the commemoration of the dawn of a new century is an event which falls to the lot of man but once; for ere another transpires the entire generation will have been called to the Unseen Temple.

"Esoteric Rites.—The observance of these esoteric rites is regarded as a sacred duty on the part of all imperial and grand potentates, grand sheiks, noble shareefs, illustrious rabbans, and all the exalted officials of the Order. Therefore, all that can possibly be convened in one congress, at the largest and most accessible point in each State of the jurisdiction, assemble to observe these mystic ceremonies. Ancient provision exacts that these observances shall prevail and continue from the appearance of the crescent moon until it reaches the full; or, during the first third of the lunar month. In America it may be appointed at any specific or chosen time within that cycle.

"These exemplifications are sought to embrace a diffuse portrayal of the gems of verities and sums of subtleties laid down in Al Koran, replete with Oriental symbolisms and impressive surroundings, "impossible to all except the initiated of the Inner Tabernacle of the Moslem Shrine, under the dominion of the crescent." They are as ancient as the cornerstone of Mohammed's temple at Mecca, as sacred as the Moslem oath that binds the tribes of Arabia to Allah, or their God, and are derived from the mythology in the deep and mysterious legends of the Koran. Its votaries are figuratively expected to accept the prophecy of the approaching millennium, the warning of the Ulema, and the appearance of Al Mahdi and the end of the world. Our most glorious attributes are to be exemplified, acquitting ourselves of all temporal thoughts, and preparing at any sacrifice to expiate all sin. We elucidate the embodiment and personification of 'the great Islam,' with pageants, Zaims, defenders and retinue, followed

by the wailing dervishes with sandaled feet, all amid the sweet perfumes of Arabia's incense, from the swinging censers and altars of sacrifice, with accompanying fervent music, deep, sad, and austere, and yet a weird and mystic melody.

"COMMEMORATING THE PROPHECY.—We thus commemorate the inspired prophecy announced at Mecca centuries ago, with the transformation of 'The Adoration,' or, 'The Keys of Secret Knowledge,' 'The Inevitable,' 'The Rending Asunder,' of Al Koran, and the final individualization of the soul and the recognition of Allah the Most High: and, although clad in steel, gold and glory, humbly bow down in reverence and humility, and proclaim that 'Allah is God,' the merciful and compassionate; and the earnestness and sincerity of the devotion should be so absolute as to render the sanctuary of the shrine a temple of purity, acceptable even for the presence of 'Allah,' 'The Most High,' and thus prepare ourselves and our disciples for reception into the unseen temple—the promised paradise. We teach that powers supreme govern our destinies, and admonish all to respect every religion, even believing none, and give the assurance that a noble heart may throb alike in breast of Arab, Christian, Greek or Turk. We exemplify the attributes of toleration, truth and justice. We war against fanaticism and superstition, and demonstrate retribution; and we welcome to our altars all duly qualified, enlightened men who believe in God, without regard to their nativity or faith."



FEZ.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE FEZ.

The Nobles wear rich costumes of Eastern character, made of silk and brocaded velvet of oriental intensity of color. The ordinary costume for street parade is conventional black with the regulation fez.

When pilgrimages to Mecca were interrupted by the Crusades about A.D. 980, the Mohammedans west of the Nile journeyed to Fez (or Fas), in Morocco, as to a holy city. Among the flourishing manufactures of the city was a head covering called tarboosh, now known as a fez, which was dyed scarlet for the students in a great school at that city. In that way it became a mark of learning, and gradually displaced other forms and colors of hats. It was carried in all directions by caravans, and thus became the distinguishing head-dress of Moslems in every part of the empire.

ABD-EL-KADER AND THE SHRINE.

Imperial Death Decree.

Abd-El-Kader—Died at Damascus, May 26, 1883, aged 76 years.

Nobility of the Mystic Shrine ! Proclamation emanating from the Congress, Imperial Council, Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, United States of America : To all Illustrious Potentates, Rabbans and Noble Shareefs throughout the jurisdiction of the Western Hemisphere: Affliction ! Distress ! Sorrow ! Illustrious Noble El-Hadji Abd-El-Kader, Grand Sheik of Alee Temple, Mecca, Arabia, under the domain of the Crescent, is dead. This renowned Shareef of the Order Bektasheeyeh, of Temple Saladin, Damascus, is officially announced departed to the Unseen Temple. You are hereby commanded, imperial and subordinate, for the full term of the next three crescent moons after this mandate, within the Mystic Sanctuaries of the Shrine, in accordance with the ancient Oriental

custom, to drape your altars and tombs with the insignia of mourning, and let the symbolic funeral urn be placed upon the sacred black stone, there to exhale incense during all ceremonials, and inscribe upon your temple records notice of the same. Executive action will also be taken at the annual session of the Imperial Council on June 6, 1883, at Masonic Temple, City of New York. In obedience to supreme decree.

WALTER M. FLEMING, 33°, Imperial Potentate.

WILLIAM S. PATERSON, 33°, Imperial Recorder.

ABD–EL–KADER'S BRETHREN MOURN FOR HIM IN ARABIAN FORM.

ABD-EL-KADER'S death in Damascus on Saturday was mourned in the Consistorial Chamber in the Masonic Temple by the American branch of the Ancient Arabic Order of Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, May 31. The mourners included, Dr. W. M. Fleming, Captains J. B. Eakins and A. S. Williams, the Rev. C. L. Twing, W. S. Paterson, A. L. Rawson, A. W. Peters, P. C. Benjamin, G. W. Millar, C. H. Heyzer, J. McGee, Bensen Sherwood, Charles Roome, C. T. McClenachan, J. M. Levey, J. F. Waring, C. W. Torrey, and Grand Potentates, Rabbans and Shareefs from various temples in the East and West. The mourners wore a full Arabic costume of fine and elaborately decorated silks. Gold crescents glistened on their turbans, tiger claws bound together in the form of crescents, Sphinx heads, golden suns, stars, pyramids, and Egyptian obelisks were pinned upon their breasts. Gray-bearded High Priests stood on a throne and conducted the memorial rites. Banners bearing inscriptions in Arabic stood behind the High Priests. In front of the throne was a black velvet coffin containing a bleached skeleton, typifying death. A letter written on parchment by Abd-El-Kader, a golden helmet, and emblems of the order rested upon the coffin. An altar draped in mourning was in the middle of the chamber. A symbolical urn exhaled incense during the ceremonies. Two scimitars were crossed at the base of the urn on one end of the altar, and a copy of the Koran in Arabic was upon the other end, with glittering scimitars crossed upon it. A large tomb, the sides of which were covered with hieroglyphics, stood at the end of the chamber, and two masked and turbaned Rabbans, glittering with mystic emblems, sat in front of the tomb, before which rose a banner bearing the words, "Es Salamu Aleikum," or "Peace be with you."

This ceremonial was one of the first of a long series of Shrine Memorial Services, impressive and beautiful, which have since this time prevailed in all of the Temples of the Shrine throughout the Western Hemisphere.

OFFICERS OF

MECCA TEMPLE,

A. H. 1311-12—A. D. 1894.

DIVAN AL AKARIM.

Augustus W. Peters,	*Potentate—Scherif Sultani.*
Charles A. Benedict,	*Chief Rabban—Scherif al Emir.*
George Wood,	*Assistant Rabban—Scherif as Sahib.*
Charles H. Heyzer,	*High Priest—Scherif al Imam.*
Thomas J. Lawrence,	*Oriental Guide—Scherif al Ayn.*
George W. Millar,	*Treasurer—Scherif al Bairak.*
Saram R. Ellison,	*Recorder—Scherif al Katib.*
James V. Kirby,	*First Ceremonial Master—Scherif al Wakil.*
Edgar M. Ayers,	*Second Ceremonial Master—Scherif al Chazin.*
Joseph B. Eakins,	*Director—Scherif al Moodeer.*
William Machan,	*Marshal—Scherif al Amal.*
Frank Donnatin,	*Captain of Guard—Scherif ar Rays.*
Henry G. Kimber,	*Outer Guard—Scherif al Hafiz.*
C. Albert Marsh,	*Alchemist—Scherif al Chymia.*
William D. Galbraith,	*Alchemist—Scherif al Chymia.*
Charles T. McClenachan,	*Trustee—Scherif an Nazar.*
James McGee,	*Trustee—Scherif al Wazir.*
Abraham L. Fromme,	*Trustee—Scherif al Mushir.*
George W. Millar, James McGee, Joseph B. Eakins, Saram R. Ellison,	*Representatives to the Imperial Council.*

MECCA TEMPLE,

NEW YORK, N. Y.

History of the First Temple in America.

As fully set forth in the preceding history, Ill. William J. Florence was initiated into the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and imparted the knowledge of the ceremonies to Dr. Walter M. Fleming, of New York, who was empowered to introduce and establish the Order in America. It was determined to confer it only on Free and Accepted Masons of the higher degrees, and on the 16th of June, 1871, a number of Knights Templar and Thirty-seconds and Thirty-thirds of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite were assembled at Masonic Hall, No. 114 East 13th Street, New York, when the proposition to engage in the establishment of the new Order was enthusiastically accepted, and the following eleven Brethren were duly received:

Edward Eddy,	William S. Paterson,
Oswald Merle d'Aubigné,	George W. Millar,
James S. Chappell,	Albert P. Moriarty,
John A. Moore,	Daniel Sickels,
Charles T. McClenachan,	John W. Simons,

Sherwood C. Campbell.

The necessary arrangements having been fairly completed in the meantime, a regular Session was called at the above Hall, on September 26, 1872, when the above Nobles, except Nobles Florence and Campbell, were present, and in due form established a regular Temple, under the name of Mecca Temple, for the exemplification of the ceremonies and reception of neophytes, and the original thirteen Nobles named as its charter members. Letters of advice and instruction from Noble W. J. Florence were read, and the history of the Order, together with the circumstances of its appearance in America, was given, by Noble W. M. Fleming. The following officers were then duly elected:

Walter M. Fleming	Potentate.
Charles T. McClenachan	Chief Rabban.
John A. Moore	Assistant Rabban.
William S. Paterson	Recorder.
Edward Eddy	High Priest.
James S. Chappell	Treasurer.
George W. Millar	Oriental Guide.
Oswald M. d'Aubigné	Captain of Guard.

The rest of the regular officers of a Temple was left vacant until a subsequent session.

The next session was held at the same place, on January 12, 1874, when a quorum of seven was present. The only business transacted was the appointment of Nobles McClenachan, Moore, and Paterson as a committee to revise and perfect the Ritual to facilitate the exemplification of the Order, and to prepare By-laws, etc., for the government of the Temple.

On January 4, 1875, the Order was conferred on Brother George F. Loder and seven associates, to form a Temple in Rochester, N. Y., which was duly organized under the name of Damascus, with a charter from Mecca Temple. Noble Bensen Sherwood was created on June 1.

A session was held at the new Masonic Hall, Twenty-third Street and Sixth Avenue, on December 13, 1875, but no business was transacted.

The work of Damascus Temple gave some impetus to the Order, and during this year Noble Fleming selected a number of prominent Masons, and invested them with the rights and prerogatives of Past Potentates for the purpose of establishing subordinate Temples, and were accredited as members of Mecca until they joined another Temple. The Order was subsequently conferred on the following Thirty-thirds: Ill.·. Orrin Welch, Syracuse, N. Y.; John D. Williams, Elmira, N. Y.; Charles H. Thomson, Corning, N. Y.; Townsend Fondey, John S. Dickerman, and Robert H. Waterman, Albany, N. Y.; John F. Collins, New York, N. Y.; John L. Stettinius, Cincinnati, O.; Vincent L. Hurlburt, Chicago, Ill.; Samuel H. Harper, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and George Scott, Paterson, N. J.

To the Unseen Temple, Noble Campbell passed in 1874, and Nobles Chappell, D'Aubigné, and Eddy in 1875, leaving only nine of the original thirteen to carry on the work. It was now proposed to add a number of active Masons to the Temple for the advancement of the Order, and afterward to institute a general governing body for the jurisdiction, both of which were accomplished at the next session held at Masonic Hall, on June 6, 1876, when twenty-five neophytes were received and duly obligated.

Noble Fleming called the Nobles to order immediately after the session, and informed them that the principal object was to form and organize a Parent Body, or Imperial Council of the Order for the United States of America.

Formation of Imperial Council.

The Imperial Council of the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine for the United States of America was then duly organized, and the following officers were elected for the term of three years:

Ill.·. Walter M. Fleming, New York...... Imperial Potentate.
George F. Loder, Rochester.......... Deputy Potentate.
Philip F. Lenhart, Brooklyn......... Chief Rabban.
Edward M. L. Ehlers, New York.... Assistant Rabban.
William H. Whiting, Rochester.. .... High Priest.
Samuel R. Carter, Rochester......... Oriental Guide.
Aaron L. Northrop, New York....... Treasurer.
William S. Paterson, New York...... Recorder.
Albert P. Moriarty, New York....... Financial Secretary.
John L. Stettinius, Cincinnati........ First Cer. Master.
Bensen Sherwood, New York......... Second Cer. Master.
Samuel Harper, Pittsburgh............ Marshal.
Frank H. Bascom, Montpelier......... Captain of the Guard.
George Scott, Paterson.............. Outer Guard.

They were duly installed by Noble McClenachan, and the Imperial Council was proclaimed formally organized.

It will be noted that the first resolution adopted is still in force, as follows :

"That the Grand Orient of this Imperial Council shall be at the City of New York, N. Y."

The prerequisites for the Order were defined by the adoption of the following resolutions :

"*Resolved*, That the prerequisite for reception into the Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine in the United States of America shall be that applicants shall be Knights Templar, according to the requirements of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar for the United States of America, as has prevailed previous to the organization of this Imperial Council.

"*Resolved*, That a Mason of the Thirty-second Degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite, be also made a prerequisite for receiving the Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, thus making the prerequisite for receiving the Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, a Knight Templar or a Thirty-second Degree Mason of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite."

Temples were empowered to confer the office and grade of Potentate upon five members, for the purpose of creating Past Potentates for Honorary Membership in the Imperial Body. The charter fee, with Ritual, for new Temples was made fifty dollars, and ten dollars annual dues, instead of any *per capita* tax. A minimum fee of ten dollars for initiation was adopted. The first act was to grant a charter to Mecca Temple of New York, N. Y., bearing date of September 26, 1872, "it being the first regularly organized Temple of the Order in the United States."

The work of the Imperial Body was begun by the appointment of a

Committee on Statutes and Regulations, with Noble McClenachan as chairman.

The Imperial Council was at this time constituted of Active Members for life, who were Potentates or Past Potentates, and were not to exceed thirty-three. The new members as they were elected, if not Potentates, were first raised to the dignity of Past Potentates, and proclaimed Active Members. The next annual session was to be held in Albany on February 6, 1877, and thereafter in the same place in the first week of the same month. The regular officers were to be elected triennially.

The fifth session of Mecca Temple was held at the new Masonic Hall, on January 16, 1877, when the Potentate stated that during the interim, in his capacity of Imperial Potentate, he had conferred the Order on a large number of desirable Sir Knights and Thirty-second and Thirty-third Masons, both in and out of the city, and thereby had largely increased the membership, in order to promote the advancement of the Temple. He spoke at length on the Order, the Imperial Body having perfected the Ritual, Statutes, History, Diplomas, Dispensations, and charters at great outlay; also that members, Temples, deputies, and representatives now extend from the extreme East to the West, and from the North to the South of our Jurisdiction, and the Order is destined to become a most popular and powerful one in America. It was reported that Noble J. A. Moore, one of the Thirteen, entered the Unseen Temple November 7, 1876.

On February 6, 1877, the Imperial Council held its regular Annual Session at Masonic Temple, in Albany, N. Y., which was attended by a large number of the Nobles of Mecca, Naja, Cyprus, and Damascus Temples. The progress made during the year was encouraging, and the Imperial Potentate gave a résumé of the work up to that time. Mecca and Damascus Temples had been duly established, and Dispensations had been granted to form Al Koran of Cleveland, Syrian of Cincinnati, Mount Sinai of Montpelier, and Naja and Cyprus Temples of Albany. These had done good work, and made a large number of members. The Active Membership of the Imperial Body was filled up to the number of thirty, the Statutes were perfected and adopted, and provision was made that every Noble should receive a Diploma from the Imperial Body. The jewels and costumes of the various officers, Imperial and Subordinate were carefully defined, and every Temple was required to select an Ancient Arabic or Egyptian name, by which it should be known.

During this year Damascus Temple had costumed its officers, procured suitable paraphernalia, and thoroughly acquired the Ritual The first of a long list of pilgrimages by Mecca, which is given elsewhere, was inaugurated by Nobles Florence, Fleming, Paterson and others, who visited Damascus Temple, and witnessed the full exemplification of the

work there for the first time, when over fifty candidates were initiated, and over one hundred Nobles sat down to a bountiful banquet.

At the session of September 18, 1877, an earnest desire was expressed to equip the body, and at the earliest opportunity proceed to confer the Order in full form. A number of vacancies in the official divan was filled up, and Noble J. R. Telfair was made Treasurer. The Potentate was empowered to procure the necessary printing required by the Temple for its proper working, sessions were to be held more frequently, and suitable rooms procured.

The Masonic Hall in East Thirteenth Street was regularly engaged, and the next session held on November 19, 1877, when several propositions were received, and Brothers T. J. Herman Daum and Willard A. Pearce were created Nobles in ample form.

On December 3, the Committee on By-laws reported a code which was adopted, a Committee on Paraphernalia was appointed, and Noble J. F. Waring was created.

At the next session, December 17, 1877, the election of the full number of officers for the first time was held, as follows :

Ill.·. Walter M. Fleming	Potentate.
Charles T. McClenachan	Chief Rabban.
Edward M. L. Ehlers	Assistant Rabban.
James A. Reed	High Priest.
George W. Millar	Oriental Guide.
Jacob R. Telfair	Treasurer.
William S. Paterson	Recorder.
John F. Collins	Ceremonial Master.
Edwin Du Laurans	Standard Bearer.
William D. May	Marshal.
W. Wallace Walker	Captain of Guard.
Stephen W. Swift	Outer Guard.

During 1878, ten sessions were regularly held, at which a large number of Nobles were created, among whom were Nobles Joseph B. Eakins and Charles W. Torrey. The election of officers was postponed at the December session.

In 1879, only four sessions were held, at one of which an election of officers for the year was held ; but they were pregnant with the desire to place Mecca in the front rank as to paraphernalia, costumes, work, and membership. The year ended with a membership of 103, and a number of enthusiastic Nobles, among whom was Noble Augustus W. Peters, who prepared the way for the accomplishment of the above desires. Brother Charles H. Heyzer, while visiting Cleveland, in company with



SOME FOUNDERS OF THE SHRINE, AND DECEASED MEMBERS OF MECCA TEMPLE.

Noble Joseph B. Eakins, was invited to attend Al Koran Temple, June 12, where he was created a Noble in full form, becoming a member of Mecca. Both the above were highly impressed with the excellent rendition of the ceremonies, and immediately proposed that Mecca become fully equipped. The elegant rooms in Temple Hall, No. 117 West Twenty-third Street, were secured for the opening session of January 9, 1880, and several Nobles proposed a large number of candidates to be introduced at that time, mainly through the influence of Noble Eakins. The necessary paraphernalia were procured, the officers were fully instructed in the Ritual, and everything betokened a brilliant future. On December 26, 1879, the following officers were elected :

Walter M. Fleming, Potentate ; Charles W. Torrey, C.R. ; Joseph B. Eakins, A.R. ; Charles H. Heyzer, H.P. ; James McGee, O.G. ; Joseph M. Levey, Treas. ; William S. Paterson, Rec. ; Davis D. Osterhoudt, C.M. ; Frank R. Nevins, S.B. ; George McNeil, M. ; Augustus W. Peters, C.G. ; Stephen W. Swift, O. Gd. ; Joseph F. Waring, Azra.

At the end of this year, the Imperial Recorder reported that there were 30 Active Members of the Imperial Body, 13 Deputies, and 13 Temples, having a total membership of 438 Nobles, being an increase of 13 over the number reported for 1878. Damascus Temple was leading with 148 Nobles.

On Friday, January 9, 1880, Mecca was opened in a blaze of glory, fifty members being present, and a large number of visitors from other Temples. Fifty Sons of the Desert passed the Moslem test. The ceremonies were conducted in full form, with appropriate music for the first time by the Temple Quartet and Organist who have continued to the present time. The paraphernalia and costumes were gorgeous. The Sessions were thereafter held nearly every month. In February the initiation fee was raised to $15, and a diploma from the Imperial Body furnished to all Nobles. On June 2 the Imperial Council was entertained by Mecca, when over 200 Nobles were present, twelve Nobles were created, and a grand banquet was given. At the Annual Sessions of the Imperial Body in February, 1879 and 1880, Nobles Fowler, Eakins, and Torrey were elected Active Members.

At the Session of January 28, 1881, the officers for the year were elected, Noble Peters becoming Assistant Rabban, vice Noble Eakins, who was appointed Director on account of the multiplicity of work. The wisdom of the latter choice is seen in the prosperity of Mecca ever since. The office of Director has since become established by the Imperial Body. A proposition to dispense with the By-laws was agreed to, leaving full power in the hands of the presiding officer. On June 9, the Imperial Council held its Annual Session in Mecca's rooms, and in the evening attended the Session of Mecca, when over 250 were present, who witnessed

the initiation of eight Sons of the Desert, and participated in a grand banquet. Noble Heyzer was this year elected an Active Member of the Imperial Council. In August, Mecca engaged the Commandery rooms of the Masonic Hall, and held its Session there on the 31st. A resolution was carried inviting Al Koran Temple to visit Mecca on September 29, when Potentate Sam Briggs and a number of Nobles were present, witnessed the full ceremonies, and were cordially entertained. At the election in December, Noble Peters became Chief Rabban, and Noble W. J. Montgomery, Assistant Rabban. The membership was 267. During the year the Recorder had introduced the proper Arabic Feasts in connection with the Arabic Calendar, and later the "History of the Order," assisted by Noble A. L. Rawson, which were approved.

On April 27, 1882, the fee was raised to $20. On May 31 a large delegation from Pyramid Temple, Bridgeport, was entertained. On June 30 the Potentate was presented by the Nobles with a magnificent official jewel. On September 29, Noble Florence was introduced as the "Father of the Order," and warmly welcomed. "He said that, when he assisted in introducing the Order into this country, he never expected to behold the magnificence of Ritual and Ceremony which surrounded him, and to meet the large numbers who took such unalloyed pleasure in pursuing the unwritten teachings, laws, and ceremonies, and participating in the celebrations of the Order. At Algiers, Cairo, and Marseilles, he was very much impressed with the Arabian mysteries, which he then beheld for the first time, and it resulted in bringing before those found worthy in the United States an Order whose teachings were profitable. After the ceremonies of the evening he also expressed his unbounded delight at the beauty and magnificence with which Mecca Temple had imbued the weird Arabic ceremony, and that he had never witnessed such an exemplification in all his travels." At the December election Noble P. C. Benjamin became Assistant Rabban. The Installation ceremonies were accompanied with musical selections for each officer. Members, 370.

At the Annual Session of the Imperial Council, June 7, 1882, the constitution of the body was changed to a representation of the Temples, which later was modified to one delegate from each Temple, and one for every 300 members, but not to exceed four delegates from each Temple. The Proceedings of this year were the first printed, and are enriched with correspondence from the East, through Noble A. L. Rawson, who had visited the interior of Mecca and had a large acquaintance with prominent members of the Order abroad. These Proceedings contain much of the early history of the Order in America. Before the change in the constitution of the Imperial Body the number of Active Members had been filled up to the full number of Thirty-three, who had been raised to the dignity

of Past Potentates under the previous constitution. The following members of Mecca Temple, now living, are, therefore, Past Potentates of the Order:

Nobles Joseph B. Eakins, Edward M. L. Ehlers, William Fowler, Charles H. Heyzer, Philip F. Lenhart, Charles T. McClenachan, George W. Millar, Albert P. Moriarty, Aaron L. Northrop, William S. Paterson, George Scott, Bensen Sherwood, Daniel Sickels, and Charles W. Torrey.

On May 31, 1883, solemn ceremonies were held in memory of the renowned Abd-el-Kader, the announcement of whose death on May 26 was given by the press, and the official notice of which will be found elsewhere. The papers had reported that he died at Constantinople, but the private advices of the Recorder enabled him to correct it, as he died in Damascus, which the papers afterward reported two days later. It excited much attention, as it was a surprise to all here that it would affect nearly five thousand Nobles of an Order to which he was allied in Arabia. At the Session of June 6, the Imperial Body took official action also, and a full history of the Noble was published in the Proceedings.

On June 6, 1883, the Imperial Body held its Triennial Session at the Masonic Hall, New York, which resulted in the election of the following officers: Walter M. Fleming, Imperial Potentate; Sam Briggs, Deputy Potentate; Wm. B. Melish, Imperial Chief Rabban; D. Burnham Tracy, Imperial Assistant Rabban; Wm. H. Whiting, Imperial High Priest and Prophet; James McGee, Imperial Oriental Guide; Joseph M. Levéy, Imperial Treasurer; W. S. Paterson, Imperial Recorder; J. W. Knowlton, Imperial First Ceremonial Master; Charles B. Flach, Imperial Second Ceremonial Master; Wm. E. Fitch, Imperial Marshal; Thomas J. Shryock, Imperial Captain of the Guard; Hugh McCurdy, Imperial Outer Guard; Stephen W. Swift, Imperial Assistant Guard; J. B. Eakins, Sam Briggs, G. W. Millar, Directory of the Imperial Council; and Nobles W. J. Florence, C. T. McClenachan, and A. L. Rawson were elected Emeritus Members.

The fourteenth century of the Hegira, 1301, began Nov. 1, and comment thereon was made in the press, as noted in the article elsewhere. On November 30, a midnight Session, in addition to the regular one, was held for the benefit of Nobles G. B. Claflin, Gus Williams, and "Tony" Pastor, who were unable to receive the Order at an early hour on account of their theatrical engagements. They were created Nobles in full form, and the Temple was closed at one o'clock. The next morning the public and the Fraternity were startled by the report that the top floor of the Temple was burned out. This caused the loss of everything on that floor, costumes, paraphernalia, etc., valued at $2,750. These had, however, always been insured, and $2,000 was realized from that provident source. The fire has always been regarded as mysterious, and the press throughout the country

gave the Nobles many adverse comments. The Fire Marshal, however, reported that the fire was caused by a defective flue. On December 27, the Director reported that he had ordered everything, and the Temple was fully equipped in another month. Only one Commandery was uninsured, and on motion $200 was immediately donated. The annual election was held, the principal officers remaining the same. Membership, 501.

On January 31, 1884, the Session was held in the Grand Lodge room. A delegation of forty-seven Nobles of Lu Lu Temple, of Philadelphia, visited Mecca, and was cordially welcomed. In February, Noble Rev. A. Buchanan, of Moundsville, W. Va., reported the losses sustained by his parish from inundations, and $100 was immediately donated to him. In May, Noble J. M. Levey was reported visiting Europe, who brought back a splendidly bound copy of the Koran, which now adorns the Altar. Over forty Nobles of Mecca visited Medinah Temple of Chicago, on April 16-21, and were handsomely entertained, and in recognition thereof Mecca presented to Medinah Temple a full set of gold jewels for the officers. In October, the Temple met at Lyric Hall, in Sixth Avenue. On November 5, a large number of Nobles visited Lu Lu Temple in their new hall. The annual election was held on December 5, with the principal officers remaining the same. On December 19, a grand installation ceremony was held, specially dedicated to the ladies. An elaborate programme was provided, comprising addresses, Arabic feast, music, songs, ventriloquism, etc. A great many ladies were present, and thus began the ladies' receptions, which have since developed into the Court of the Daughters of Isis. Number of members, 622.

On January 14, 1885, the Session was held at Lyric Hall. To the sufferers by fire at Carthage, $50 was donated. On January 29, a Special Session of Mecca was held at the rooms of Pyramid Temple, Bridgeport, when 101 Nobles of Mecca were present, and were elegantly entertained. Fifty-one neophytes were created, seven being for Mecca. On March 23, nearly 100 Nobles attended the funeral of Inspector T. W. Thorne, one of the members. On April 30, Mecca entered the newly furnished rooms of Masonic Hall, and held a jubilee. The daughters of Nobles Twing and Reeves had been presented with jewels on the occasion of their marriage, and one jewel to Mrs. Shuster, of Philadelphia, for her courtesies on Mecca's visit there. Eloquent replies were received from the ladies. The first action was a contribution of $50 in aid of the Bartholdi statue fund, which was editorially acknowledged by the New York *World*. On August 20, a large number of Nobles and their ladies attended the annual excursion of Lu Lu Temple, on the steamer "Sirius," to Roton Point Grove, Long Island Sound, and were well entertained. On October 29, the Shrine heard of the new arrival of a stranger in the precincts of the home of Noble

Eakins, and a suitable gift was presented. On November 30, anniversary of the fire of two years before, a donation of $500 was made to the Hall and Asylum Fund, in aid of the efforts of Grand Master F. R. Lawrence, a Noble of Mecca, to pay off the debt on the Masonic Hall. On December 29, the principal officers were re-elected. Membership, 758.

At the Session of January 30, 1886, services were held in commemoration of Mahmoud el Falaki, Shareef of Cairo Temple, Egypt. At the regular Session of February 23, there were 350 Nobles present, the general attendance for some time. On March 31, the Nobles presented Ill.·. Fleming with a copy of Catafago's "Arabic Lexicon," in commemoration of the fifteenth year of the Shrine.

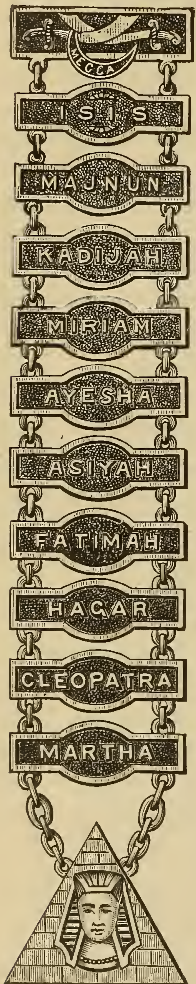
A delegation of Nobles of Mecca Temple escorted the Imperial Officers to Cleveland, where the Triennial Session of the Imperial Body was held, on June 14, 1886, and they were royally entertained. Noble Fleming gave place to Noble Sam Briggs as Imperial Potentate, and Noble Eakins became Deputy Potentate. Noble James McGee was re-elected Oriental Guide, and Nobles Levéy, Treasurer, and Paterson, Recorder, retained their offices. Ill. Noble Fleming served as Imperial Potentate from 1876 to 1886, inclusive.

On October 29, Noble W. D. Garrison announced that he had succeeded in obtaining a beautiful specimen of Black Stone from the precincts of the city of Mecca, which would be presented later. At the Session of December 30, the membership number passed 1,000 and reached 1,086. Membership, 1,018. Annual election retained the same principal officers.

On February 25, 1887, Noble W. D. Garrison presented the Black Stone procured from Mecca, with authentic letters and a full description. It now adorns the Altar. On March 31, a stand of arms was presented to the Temple by Noble John Worthington, Consul at Malta. A large number of Mecca Nobles escorted the Imperial Officers to Indianapolis, where the Annual Session was held, on June 20, followed by a splendid banquet. At the Session of June 28, a petition of thirty-four Nobles to form Kismet Temple, Brooklyn, was recommended. On December 30, Noble Peters was elected Potentate, and Noble E. S. Innet, Chief Rabban, the other principal officers remaining the same. Membership, 1,170.

On February 29, 1888, Syria Temple presented a finely framed set of its officers. A superb watch was presented to Noble Fleming, as a testimonial from Mecca to its first presiding officer for seventeen years. On April 30, it was resolved to hold the Sessions thereafter at Scottish Rite Hall, 94 Madison Avenue, which had just been bought by the Scottish Rite Bodies of New York City. On May 31, Mecca held its first Session at the new hall, when forty-four Nobles were created. Noble W. E. Sayers was presented by the Nobles with a very fine cornet, in appreciation of his services

during many meetings as cornetist. On August 20, the Shrine sustained a great loss in the death of Noble J. M. Levéy, who was Imperial Treasurer and Treasurer of Mecca, and also of the Consistory of New York City. All his accounts were found correct. Noble G. W. Millar was appointed Treasurer, and was also appointed Imperial Treasurer. On October 22, Noble J. W. Simons, one of the original Thirteen, entered the Unseen Temple.



ISIS MEDAL.

Court of Isis.—On October 30, 1888, the officers of Mecca Temple established the Court of Isis for North America, as an independent organization, to bring into more intimate social relations the ladies of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. Other courts can only be established by charter from Mecca Court, and are under the sole guidance and protection of the officers of the Shrine Temple under which they are formed. It has a regular initiation, laws, and jewels. Mecca Court meets nearly every month, and includes an entertainment of great variety and interest. At the Vigil in January, it is now customary to install the officers of Mecca.

On December 27, 1888, the election of officers was principally the same, with Noble R. P. Lyon as Oriental Guide and Noble G. W. Millar as Treasurer. Membership, 1,257.



ISIS FEZ.

On June 17, 1889, the Imperial Body held its Triennial Session at Chicago, when a large number of Mecca Nobles were present. At the election all of Mecca's officers were superseded, Imperial Recorder Paterson retiring after continuous service from 1876 to 1889, thirteen years.

On September 30, a special session of Mecca was held at Poughkeepsie, when thirty-four Nobles were created. On December 30, the annual election resulted principally as before. Membership, 1,404.

On January 29, 1890, Noble O. S. Long presented to the Temple two large photographs of the City of Mecca and the Interior of the Holy Kaaba, sent by his brother, Rev. Dr. Long. They were enlarged from photographs taken with a detective camera at the risk of the owner's life. They are unique.

The election of the principal officers, on December 30, resulted as before, with Noble C. A. Benedict as Chief Rabban. Membership, 1,548.

Ill. Noble W. J. Florence entered the Unseen Temple on November 19, 1891. At the Session of November 30, Noble W. M. Fleming gave an eloquent and loving tribute to the memory of the "Father of the Mystic Shrine in America." On October 29, the membership number 2,000 was passed. On December 29, the annual election was held, Recorder Paterson retiring after a continuous service of twenty years. Noble S. R. Ellison became Recorder, the principal officers being as before. Number of members, 1,749. The Roll of Membership showed that 2,079 Nobles had been created to this date.

During 1892, albums were set apart for every Temple, and all Nobles were requested to send their photographs for preservation in Mecca's archives. A Badge and Diploma were prepared for presentation to every pilgrim who visits Mecca, conferring on him the honorary title of "Haji." Shrine parties, pilgrimages, and ladies' nights were held as usual. A buttonhole badge, with emblem of Crescent, Scimitar and "Mecca," was adopted. A proposition to have a grand Carnival and entertainment peculiar to the Shrine was agreed to with great enthusiasm. The work was begun to make the necessary arrangements, and the Madison Square Garden was engaged for January 26, 1893, and in the following year for January 16, 1894.



BUTTONHOLE BADGE



HAJI PIN, PRESENTED TO NOBLES VISITING MECCA.

In December, 1893, the following were elected:

Ill.·. Augustus W. Peters, Potentate; Charles A. Benedict, C. R.; George Wood, A. R.; Charles H. Heyzer, H. P.; Thomas J. Lawrence, O. G.; George W. Millar, Treas.; Saram R. Ellison, Rec.; James V. Kirby, 1st C. M.; Edgar M. Ayers, 2d C. M.; Joseph B. Eakins, Director; William Machan, M.; Frank Donnatin, C. Gd.; Henry G. Kimber, O. Gd.; Charles A. Marsh, William D. Galbraith, Alchemists; Charles T. McClenachan, James McGee, Abraham L. Fromme, Trustees.

The membership has reached the number of 2,816. Noble Ellison gives the following totals from the beginning to the present time: Entered the Unseen Temple, 212; suspended for non-payment of dues, 158; dimitted, many to form new Temples, 168; expelled, 3; honorary, 3; leaving in good standing, 2,272 (May 1, 1894). An index of its prosperity is seen in the fact that during the past year, 1893, the receipts were

$19,213.33, disbursements $10,512.03, leaving a balance on hand of $8,701.30.

Since 1880 the Temple has met nearly every month, and large numbers of candidates were received at every Session, the ceremonies being given in full form, with music and all the accessories required by the magnificent Ritual. The attendance of the Nobles often exceeded 600. Every Session terminated with the traditional banquet, which was always superb. Large amounts were at various times donated to the sick and distressed, as well as in aid of many worthy causes. An *esprit de corps* has been established by this Order which dominates all other orders, and the social side touching the public has been firmly cemented. It is the Supreme Confraternity of Fraternities.

Looking back to the first meeting in 1871, we behold this wondrous growth of a new Order, which the 68 Temples and about 35,000 Nobles in this jurisdiction incontrovertibly attest. The child reached its majority of twenty-one years in 1893, and it is now a giant. The fitting climax was reached in the Carnival of that year.

WILLIAM S. PATERSON.

May 13, 1894.

TEMPLES OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE.

Name.	*Location.*
Abdallah	Leavenworth, Kansas.
Acca	Richmond, Va.
Afifi	Tacoma, Washington.
Ahmed	Marquette, Mich.
Aleppo	Boston, Mass.
Aladdin	Columbus, Ohio.
Algeria	Helena, Montana.
Al Chymia	Memphis, Tenn.
Alhambra	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Al Kader	Portland, Oregon.
Al Koran	Cleveland, Ohio.
Al Malaikah	Los Angeles, Cal.
Almas	Washington, D. C.
Ararat	Kansas City, Mo.
Ballut Abyad	Albuquerque, N. M.
Ben Hur	Austin, Texas.
Boumi	Baltimore, Md.
Cyprus	Albany, N. Y.
Damascus	Rochester, N. Y.
El Jebel	Denver, Colo.
El Kahir	Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
El Kalah	Salt Lake City, Utah.
El Katif	Spokane, Washington.
El Riad	Sioux Falls, S. D.
El Zagal	Fargo, N. D.
Hamasa	Meridian, Miss.
Hella	Dallas, Texas.
India	Oklahoma, O. T.
Isis	Salina, Kansas.
Islam	San Francisco, Cal.
Ismailia	Buffalo, N. Y.
Jerusalem	New Orleans, La.
Kaaba	Davenport, Iowa.
Kismet	Brooklyn, N. Y.

Name.	*Location.*
Kora	Lewiston, Me.
Kosair	Louisville, Ky.
Lu Lu	Philadelphia, Pa.
Mecca	New York, N. Y.
Medinah	Chicago, Ill.
Mohammed	Peoria, Ill.
Media	Watertown, N. Y.
Moila	St. Joseph, Mo.
Moolah	St. Louis, Mo.
Morocco	Jacksonville, Fla.
Moslem	Detroit, Mich.
Mount Sinai	Montpelier, Vt.
Murat	Indianapolis, Ind.
Naja	Deadwood, S. D.
Oriental	Troy, N. Y.
Osiris	Wheeling, W. Va.
Osman	St. Paul, Minn.
Palestine	Providence, R. I.
Pyramid	Bridgeport, Conn.
Rajah	Reading, Pa.
Rameses	Toronto, Canada.
Sahara	Pine Bluff, Ark.
Salaam	Olney, Ill.
Saladin	Grand Rapids, Mich.
Sesostris	Lincoln, Neb.
Syria	Pittsburgh, Pa.
Syrian	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Tangier	Omaha, Neb.
Tripoli	Milwaukee, Wis.
Yaarab	Atlanta, Ga.
Zamora	Birmingham, Ala.
Zem Zem	Erie, Pa.
Ziyara	Utica, N. Y.
Zuhrah	Minneapolis, Minn.

MECCA TEMPLE'S SOCIAL FEATURES.

By Noble James McGee.

We know of no organization, no matter what its character, that has catered so largely and so liberally to the pleasure, amusement, and entertainment of not alone its membership, but their families, as this Order of the Mystic Shrine of North America. It has brought into social and friendly communion the Masons of prominence and their lady relatives all over this broad land. It is fittingly termed The Social Club of the country. It is the only institution of a social nature that is universal throughout North America. Go where you will, the Emblematic Tiger Claw Crescent is the "Open, Sesame!" to good fellowship and insures a warm greeting.

Our purpose here is not alone to enlighten the membership who through business or family cares have been unable to participate in any of the Pilgrimages as to what they have missed in the way of instructive sightseeing, and how liberally and hospitably we have been received and royally entertained; but, at the same time, to show in cold type to those who have showered their attentions and courtesies upon us that they have not been forgotten, and that they will ever remain treasured as bright memories of good times experienced at their hands and solid friendships formed.

The Shriners of the Metropolitan District who have never been beyond its precincts know nothing of the good existing in the Order; he takes the degree, and outside of the regular and social meetings of his Temple he is wrapt up in business, no time for aught else. Let him go out into the country, experience as have we the whole-souled meetings and greetings that beset him, and he'll appreciate, as did the Shriner's little daughter who sent the letter to Mecca Temple after her visit to the "Shrine Children's Matinée," when she wrote "*she was so glad her papa was a Shriner.*"

From our experience, we say, without the fear of contradiction, that any mortal who has trod the sands and wears a pair of claws will never get lost in these United States.

The Order of the Mystic Shrine, although introduced into this country and Americanized early in the seventies, it was not until 1877, when really the first pilgrimage was made, that it began to spread its roots and develop strength. Cyprus Temple, in the City of Albany, on the 6th of February, was visited by the Imperial Council (then but a year old) and a delegation of Mecca Temple. Later in the same year, a number of Mecca's Nobles, amongst whom were Nobles W. M. Fleming, W. J. Florence, George W. Millar, W. S. Paterson, John A. Moore, James McGee, W. D. May, made

a pilgrimage to Damascus Temple of the City of Rochester, at that time the largest Temple in point of members. The degree was conferred upon fifty candidates at a session held during the sojourn. Upwards of a hundred sat down to the banquet; Fleming, Florence, and others equally entertaining aided digestion with their flow of humor. The trip to Rochester and return, and the sojourn, were full of humorous incidents and pleasantries.

1879—June 12.—Al Koran Temple, Cleveland, Ohio, held a session. Noble Joseph B. Eakins (Director), of Mecca Temple, being in attendance at the Annual Meeting of the Supreme Council of the A. & A. S. R., concluded to visit Al Koran and witness the work. At the same time, he persuaded Brother Charles H. Heyzer (High Priest) to become a candidate, and go through with those of Al Koran Temple. Potentate Sam Briggs and his staff performed the work elegantly and impressively; so much so, that Nobles Eakins and Heyzer on their return to New York enthused those prominent in Mecca's councils to active work in rehearsing, procuring of costumes and paraphernalia for the proper rendition of the degree in full. Therefore, to this individual pilgrimage can be attributed the starting into active working life of Mecca Temple.

1881—December 16.—Nobles Walter M. Fleming, M.D., Chas. T. McClenachan, Geo. W. Millar, James McGee, J. B. Eakins, Charles H. Heyzer, M. D. Barr, and Joseph A. Britton traveled toward the setting sun to the Forest City, Cleveland, there to attend a session of Al Koran Temple, noted for the elegance of its work. Many Nobles of Sister Temples were present. The occasion was made specially pleasant. The party domiciled at the Weddell House, where Noble Charles T. Wesley, the proprietor, cared for every want in grand style. A delegation of Nobles of Al Koran, headed by Potentate Sam Briggs and Geo. M. Burt, were on hand to escort to hotel and to place of meeting of Al Koran Temple, where the party of pilgrims witnessed the progress made by fourteen poor sons of the desert, eager for knowledge. Arab songs and music from an excellent band interspersed the ceremonies, causing a charming effect. Eleven P.M. closed the ceremonies and commenced the festivities, one hundred and fifty being seated at the festive board, Noble Sam Briggs presiding and toast master. Speeches, songs, recitations, and stories, etc., caused the hours to pass rapidly. The following day was devoted to seeing the city from barouches; Euclid Avenue with its broad, handsome lawns and residences of varied architecture. We visited the cemetery and vault which hold the remains of Brother James A. Garfield; the casket visible through the grating, with Victoria wreath. United States soldiers were on guard. The catafalque was also witnessed. All that could be done was done to make the stay pleasant, and the journey going and returning will ever be treasured by those who participated, as replete with jollity and fun.

1882—April 24-25.—Detroit, Michigan, was the next city invaded by the pilgrims of Mecca, among whom were Nobles Walter M. Fleming, M.D., Geo. W. Millar, Charles W. Torrey, James McGee, Joseph B. Eakins, Charles H. Heyzer, W. S. Paterson, Wm. H. Naething, Stephen D. Affleck, Joseph F. Waring, Amos L. See, Harvey Mitchell, Isaac F. Gorham, Geo. B. Eddy, Joseph A. Britton, James V. Kirby, Hermon J. Emerson, Edward H. Warker, J. J. Brogan, John Blazi, Robert Hall, Wm. Q. Titus, Edward Williams and Matthew D. Barr. As was the previous pilgrimage to Cleveland, so was this a source of considerable amusement en route—fun was extracted from everything and everybody. On arrival at Detroit we were escorted to the Russell House. The Nobles of Moslem Temple had not as yet conferred the Order in full. They had an unusually large number of candidates in waiting; two sessions were held, one in the afternoon, the other in the evening. Mecca officers officiated at both the sessions in conferring the degree in full. One portion of the ceremony was exceedingly realistic to a number of the latest acquisitions to membership in Moslem Temple.

1883—Aug. 7 to Sept. 1, San Francisco, California.—Here was the greatest distance traveled by any of our pilgrimages up to date; and here was introduced the innovation which has proved so successful and pleasant, *i.e.*, the addition of Shriners' families to the pilgrimages. In company with the New York State Battalion of Knights Templar, en route over the Erie, Grand Trunk, C., B. & Q., Denver & Rio Grande, and Central Pacific Railroads, to attend the festivities in connection with the Twenty-second Triennial of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, were Nobles James McGee, Geo. Scott, John Scott and wife, John S. Bartlett and wife, P. H. Melley, H. M. Bishop, John D. Williams, Alex. C. Robertson, John W. Simons, Chas. Roome and wife, Edw. F. Barnes and wife, Geo. Van Vliet, Edw. M. Chapin and wife, Nelson J. Welton and wife, all of Mecca Temple. In response to the following notice: "Islam Temple, Nobles Mystic Shrine, San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 20. 1883. Ill. Nobles: There will be a meeting of the above Temple on Thursday evening, 23d inst., at 8 o'clock, in the rooms of Golden Gate Commandery, 131 Port Street, when the order will be exemplified by Nobles from Eastern Temples. You are cordially invited to be present and to bring with you any visiting Noble you may be acquainted with. By order of W. H. L. Barnes, Potentate; John H. Gray, Recorder"—from the above-named Nobles of Mecca a working force of officers was selected, with Noble George Scott as Potentate, George Van Vliet as High Priest, and James McGee as Oriental Guide, and the degree was conferred for the first time upon the Pacific coast, Nobles John H. Gray, Tristam Burges and Edw. Newhall, the nucleus who started Islam Temple, having received their degree in Mecca Temple.

At the close of the work an excellent banquet followed. Every moment of time of the sojourners on the coast was enjoyed, instructive sightseeing, and receiving of courtesies on every hand from those large-hearted and hospitable Californians. None of the party will ever forget the pleasures of this grand pilgrimage.

1884—April 5, Philadelphia.—A large number of Nobles of Mecca visited Lu Lu Temple to witness the rendition of the degree in their new costumes and paraphernalia, costing about $5,000. Potentate Daniel E. Hughes, with his efficient corps of officers, was exceedingly impressive. The party returned to New York on the midnight train.

1884—April 16–21, Chicago.—Ill. Nobles Walter M. Fleming, M.D., Joseph B. Eakins, Wm. S. Paterson, Geo. W. Millar, James McGee, Sam Briggs, W. B. Melish, Charles H. Heyzer, Edw. B. Jordan, Daniel E. Hughes, M.D., C. H. Flach, officers and members of the Imperial Council, escorted by the following Nobles of Mecca Temple, Stephen D. Affleck, Hiram S. Armstrong, Thomas Burkhard, Zebulon Brower, John J. Clark, Thomas Cronan, B. H. Dupignac, Jacob H. Forshay, Geo. H. Fitzwilson, Orlando Greacen, Judson W. Holbrook, Emil H. Kosmak, Charles P. Ketterer, James Luker, Thos. H. Lombard, Wm. C. Locherty, Joseph E. Miller, Mark Mayer, H. Freeman Neefus, Alex. C. Robertson, Geo. H. Rowe, Amos L. See, Robert H. Smith, James B. Small, John J. Silberhorn, Isaac Taylor, Jr., Geo. W. Van Buskirk, Edward Williams, Thos W. Winterbottom and Charles T. White, left this city at 8 P.M., April 16, via the West Shore (the pioneer excursion party over this new railroad, running along the west bank of the Hudson) and Grand Trunk Railroads, in the City of Worcester and Edwin Forrest, two elegant sleeping coaches. The railroad officials were specially attentive to the parties' wants and did their best to make the trip pleasant. The pilgrims for the nonce became "boys again," with all kinds of old-time games and tricks—spiders, horns, Fourth of July cigars, "Thank you!" etc., were indulged, both going and returning. Old-time songs collated and printed in book form, and styled "Melodies for the Pilgrims of Mecca whilst Traversing the Desert Sands, New York and Chicago," were distributed, and at all hours could be heard strains of "Old Black Joe," "Sweet By and By," etc., etc. There was very little sleep indulged or permitted on the outgoing trip—the soul of mischief pervaded the party. At every station the platform was filled with spectators, who quaintly inquired who these fez-bedecked Arabs were. By some they were styled the Mystic Shrine Opera Company and the Mystic Shrine Baseball Club. At Valparaiso, some distance this side of Chicago, the party was increased by some twenty of Medinah Temple's Nobles, who had started out from Chicago the night before as a committee to welcome us. With them were a dozen dusky darkies, arrayed in Arab costumes,

supplied with *liquid delight*, which they gave to the weary and thirsty pilgrims. The entire party were met at the depot at 8.30 A.M., the morning of the 18th, and escorted to the Grand Pacific Hotel. It was open house in Chicago to all of Mecca sojourners. Carriage ride through the principal portion of the city at 10 A.M., and out to the Driving Park, where refreshments *ad lib.* were served, return to the hotel at 4 P.M.; at 5 P.M. a reception tendered the Imperial Council and Mecca, and in the evening the degree was conferred in full form by the officers of Mecca Temple upon fifty-two candidates. At the close of the ceremonies the party was escorted to the banquet hall, where justice was done to a splendid repast. The following day coaches called for Mecca Nobles, who were shown the great stock-yards and its workings, etc., as well as other places of note, a special exhibition of Police and Insurance Patrols and Fire Department was also witnessed, and at 8.30 P.M. of the 19th, under escort, we boarded our train, with many regrets at parting, and *Es Salamu Aleikum* from Medinah Nobles, and started for the Empire State, all speaking in the highest terms of the reception and good time experienced whilst sojourning in Chicago. Amongst those who were specially anxious for our welfare were Nobles James H. Thompson, Frank Luce, Thomas Currier, Al. Russell, Edgar P. Tobey. The singing of Medinah's Chanters Al Koran, C. C. Phillips, Chas. M. Smith, Edw. C. Hall and John M. Hubbard, was excellent. The homeward journey was just as prolific of enjoyment as the outgoing.

1884—July 7, Baltimore, Md.—Nobles Geo. H. Fitzwilson, Charles T. Griffith, James McGee and others accompanied some eighty members of Lu Lu Temple, of Philadelphia, on a pilgrimage to Boumi Temple, Baltimore, to exemplify the work of the Order. The party, during their stay, were domiciled at the Carrollton. The stop was very pleasant. A parade, with band, through the principal thoroughfares, and banquet were part of the festivities.

1884—Sept. 6–7, Catskill Mountains.—Nearly two hundred Nobles and their ladies of Mecca left New York via special train over the West Shore Railroad for a Saturday and Sunday holiday outing in the renowned Catskill Mountains. After viewing the majestic Hudson River up as far as Kingston, our train was switched over to the Ulster & Delaware Railroad, when the climb up the mountain began. At Phœnicia we were transferred to the narrow gauge track of the Stony Clove & Catskill Mountain Railroad, which brought the party to the Kaaterskill Railroad, from the terminus of which a short carriage ride landed us at the spacious Hotel Kaaterskill in the Clouds in time for supper. The views of beauty and grandeur of scenery amply paid the party for whatever of tediousness there was in the long ride. Housed in a twelve hundred room hotel, twenty-five hundred feet

above the level of the Hudson. A grand hop was tendered us on Saturday evening, the dance being interspersed with excellent music. Service was held in the parlors on Sunday morning, Mecca quintet, Gorham, See, Eddy, Hills and Mitchell, rendering some choice selections, which placed the party way up in the estimation of Host Harding, and the best in the hotel was not too good for Mecca's pilgrims. The party were photoed in two groups. The day was devoted to rambles in ye haunts of ye ancient Rip Van Winkle. The time allotted for enjoyment of the mountain air and scenery was well employed, and so thoroughly enjoyed that, when the bell rang for the commencement of the return trip, at least one-third decided to remain among the clouds and come home later. The following committee received unstinted praise for this admirable outing: Nobles Geo. W. Millar, Walter M. Fleming, M.D., James McGee, C. H. Heyzer, J. B. Eakins, W. S. Paterson, Wayland Trask, P. Kretschmar, T. Allston Brown. A pamphlet was issued containing a collection of old-time songs entitled "Melodies for the Pilgrims of Mecca—Mounting the Mountains." They divided the members into committees as follows: Committee Chargé d'Affaires, which was the active working body; Committee on Paths (Allo! Homeo!), made up of physicians from the membership; Committee on Stumps and Snags (made up of dentists); Committee on Locusts (Police Department officials); Committee on Berrying (funeral directors); Committee Inquisitorial and Black Art (writers, editors and printers); Committee on Roads (railroad officials); Committee on Shrubs (apothecaries); Committee on Rest and Refreshment (bonifaces); Aerial Committee (musicians, vocal and instrumental); Delineating and Sketching Committee (artists, theatrical and painters); Committee on Ways and Means (financial producers). The foregoing will be the more appreciated when it is known that amongst Mecca's membership is so large a contingent in each of the business and professional walks of life.

1884—Friday, Oct. 31, Philadelphia.—Ill. Walter M. Fleming, Imperial Potentate; Nobles Wm. S. Paterson, Joseph B. Eakins, James McGee, Charles H. Heyzer, A. L. Rawson, Geo. W. Millar, Joseph M. Levéy, of the Imperial Council, and a large delegation of Mecca's members, in a special train visited the Quaker City, where they were received and escorted to the Lu Lu Temple's new hall on Broad Street, which had just been completed and handsomely decorated. The above named representatives of the Imperial Council, with true Arab ceremony, dedicated the *Al Zoorah Masjeed*.

1885—Jan. 29, Bridgeport, Conn.—One hundred and fifty of the Nobles of Mecca embarked on board the steamer Crystal Wave at 3 P. M., bound for Bridgeport to attend a session of Pyramid Temple. The sail up the Sound was very much enjoyed, the weather being delightful for the season

of the year. The Bridgeport Nobles, with fezes and a band, met the party at dock, and escorted them through the principal thoroughfares to their hall, where the degree was conferred upon fifty-one candidates, Mecca's officers officiating, *i.e.*, W. M. Fleming, M.D., Potentate; A. W. Peters and C. W. Torrey, Rabbans; Chas. H. Heyzer, High Priest; James McGee, Oriental Guide; J. B. Eakins, Geo. W. Millar, Wm. D. May and Chas. A. Benedict. At the conclusion the banquet room was visited, and the time up to the start for the midnight boat (Waterbury) for New York was consumed in pleasant speeches and a good time generally. The sail home was full of funny reminiscences. The soul of mischief pervaded certain of the party, and, although the majority had retired to their state-rooms, sleep was out of the question. Only those who had been accustomed to sleep midst the roar of cannon, drum beating and anvil choruses could hope for repose. At 7 A.M. the steamboat landed the party at her regular pier, every one in the best of nature and spirits, notwithstanding they slumbered but little.

1885—Aug. 20.—Up the Sound to Roton Point, in company with the Nobles and their ladies of Lu Lu Temple, Philadelphia, who had chartered the Iron steamboat Sirius for a day's outing. A very pleasant day was the result for all—children included. Dancing was indulged en route.

1885—Oct. 12–16, Rochester.—A large delegation of Mecca Nobles visited this city (during the annual conclave of the G. Commandery of K. T.), and attended a working session of Damascus Temple. They were handsomely and hospitably received and entertained. Among the Nobles were Charles A. Benedict, Wm. D. May, Robert P. Lyon, James McGee, Isaac F. Gorham, Amos L. See, A. T. Hills, Harvey Mitchell, George B. Eddy, Dr. J. O. Farrington, Dr. John Shrady, Joseph E. Miller, Chas. H. Anderson, W. W. Walker, Curtis Betts, Chas. H. Heyzer, James E. Gritman, Chas. P. Ketterer and Peter Forrester.

1886—Jan. 20, Boston.—Shriners must go to Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, or to Detroit at times, to aid and abet in the work of establishing the Noble Order of Arabia upon those hospitable shores. Each State and Territory of this broad domain have a niche in some portion of their geographical limits wherein it may well be considered a "sandy desert." Massachusetts is not exempt from a piece of land that, for its extent, is equal to the great Sahara, and she has also many people within her confines that will make good "Arabs" to populate the same. But the New Yorkers and Jerseyites that accompanied them did go to the "Hub" of the universe to attend a session of Aleppo Temple. The occasion was made notable through its being the first time that the Order had been conferred in the City of Boston in full form and costume, with all the attendant interesting ceremonies, and by the presence of representatives of the Imperial Council

for the United States in the persons of Nobles Joseph B. Eakins, Charles H. Heyzer and James McGee, escorted by the officers and the following delegation of Nobles from Mecca Temple of New York City: Captain J. J. Brogan, John Little, Isaac Fromme, Martin Sadler, F. Schwalenberg, James V. Kirby, Charles P. Ketterer, Charles White, James Kempster, John Underhill, John Clark, Charles A. Benedict, Charles T. Griffith, A. L. Heyer, E. B. Banks, Joseph Britton, Samuel Terhune, Thomas Leigh, Edward Williams, John Scott, Emil H. Kosmak, H. Richtberg, L. F. Delisle, Fred Hamilton, John F. Riday, A. K. Ingraham, of New York City; Fred Quintard, New Haven, Conn.; Hermon J. Emerson, E. D. Washburne, Clark Rhinehart, of Brooklyn, N. Y.; F. P. Morris, Flushing, N. Y.; E. M. Chapin, Pine Meadow, Conn.; R. E. Holmes, West Winsted, Conn.; H. W. Pope, Elizabeth, N. J.; R. B. Talfor, Texas; Orlando Greacen, R. Gray, Jr., J. H. Stewart, of Newark; W. R. Jernee, New Brunswick, N. J.; James Walker, Dr. H. Bishop, of Norwich, Conn. The visitors arrived in Boston at 6.20 Wednesday evening, and immediately proceeded to the Quincy House, where they were received and entertained by a committee on the part of Aleppo Temple, and after supper conveyed to Odd Fellows' Hall. Arriving at the apartments of the Shrine, the distinguished visitors were formally received by the Potentate, Henry E. Hosley, and the officers and Nobles of Aleppo Temple. To the address of welcome response was made by Director Captain Eakins, who in turn introduced Dr. James W. Bowden, who made a graceful address, and, in closing, presented Potentate Hosley as a present from Mecca Temple an elegant sceptre appropriate to his office.

The officers of Aleppo Temple exemplified the Order upon sixteen candidates, introducing all the legendary zikers of the Dervishes, processions, illuminations, enchantments, fantasias, chorus and music with which the Order is most richly endowed. The officers of Aleppo Temple comprise the following-named Nobles: Henry E. Hosley, Potentate; Thomas Waterman, Chief Rabban; James A. Fox, Assistant Rabban; Leonard M. Averell, High Priest and Prophet; Joseph W. Work, Oriental Guide; Albert Edgcomb, Treasurer; Ezra G. Robinson, Recorder; Geo. A. Gillette, First Ceremonial Master; Wm. H. Lothrop, Standard Bearer; Geo. S. Carpenter, Marshal; Frank Locke, Director; Frank W. Bird, Alchemist; Geo. O. Townsend, Architect; Wm. Tyner, Captain of Guard; J. Q. A. Holbrook, Outer Guard; F. W. Knowles, C. J. Buffum, J. L. White and J. K. Berry, Chanters Al Koran; J. P. Weston, Organist; T. M. Carter, Cornetist and Leader of the Orchestra; Trustees al Masjid, John L. Stevenson, Geo. S. Carpenter and Wm. A. Bunton.

At the close of the exemplification the Nobles in the procession escorted their guests to the banqueting hall, where a generous feast had been spread.

This, together with the postprandial exercises and fragrant Havanas, brought to a fitting close a most enjoyable and long to be remembered event.

1886—May 24, Bridgeport.—A party of Mecca, headed by Nobles E. S. D. Shaw, James Cochrane, James McGee, Charles A. Benedict, and Fred Waldron, made a running visit to Pyramid Temple to witness the working of her officers. There were Nobles present from all sections of the Nutmeg State. Thirty-two candidates were nobilized at this session. The visitors were handsomely entertained. Nobles Higbee, Dutton and Knowlton were particularly anxious for Mecca's Nobles.

1886.—June 14, Cleveland.—Triennial Session of the Imperial Council. Dr. Walter M. Fleming, Imperial Potentate; Geo. W. Millar, Imperial Director; Joseph M. Levéy, Imperial Treasurer; James McGee, Imperial Oriental Guide; William S. Paterson, Imperial Recorder; Joseph B. Eakins, I. D.; Charles H. Heyzer and Charles T. McClenachan of the Imperial Council, escorted by the following Nobles of Mecca, Ed. M. Chapin, Thomas Burkhard, Charles T. Griffith, T. Allston Brown, Geo. Van Buskirk, B. H. Dupignac and Ed. Williams, and Ed. B. Jordan and Joseph S. Wright of Lu Lu Temple, left New York, in a special sleeping coach over the Erie Railroad, to attend the session of the Imperial Council at Cleveland. The Weddell House was made the headquarters and home of the party. The entire trip and sojourn were very enjoyable. The reception and entertainment programme was carried out to the letter and approved by all.

1886—September 18–25, St. Louis.—A party of one hundred and forty-nine Nobles and ladies of Mecca accompanied the New York State Battalion of K. T. *en route* to St. Louis, where the Grand Encampment of K. T. were to hold their Twenty-third Triennial Session. In the party were George W. Millar, Charles H. Heyzer, James McGee, Joseph B. Eakins, Isaac F. Gorham, Charles T. McClenachan, Dr. Eben S. D. Shaw, Dr. J. O. Farrington, Dr. Waldo H. Richardson, Charles T. Griffith, H. H. Brockway, C. G. Braxmar, J. Britton, Charles Roome, Claudius M. Roome, Charles Cumming, P. A. J. Russell, Geo. Scott, Ed. L. Gaul, Joseph E. Miller, Horace J. Farrington, William H. De Graaf, Charles F. Lusch, Ed. M. Chapin, Dr. Ed. Zimmerman, Charles A. Piercy, Samuel Terhune, Arthur Carfoot, Rufus E. Holmes, William Otis Munroe, J. J. Brogan, John A. Mapes, John W. Simons, George W. Parkinson, William F. Muchmore, Robert H. Smith, Peter Forrester, Henry F. Herkner, George Van Vliet, George W. Waterbury, James W. Bowden, Henry Butler, Thomas Lombard, Dr. Henry Tierney, Charles G. Cocks, John Scott, Fred. H. Waldron, Charles E. Billings, Richard Gibb, Charles Gillespie, George W. English, Edward A. Johnson and Valentine Hammann. The route was *via* the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, noted for the grandeur of its scenery, taking the

party through such places of prominence as Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Harper's Ferry, Cumberland Mountains, Parkersburg, Chillicothe, Cincinnati, Vincennes, etc., affording a beautiful panoramic view of the country where runs the Cheat River, etc. The outward journey was made very pleasant by novel features of amusement by the rollicking fun loving Shriners. Mecca's (Imported Kazoo) Band got in their fine work the first evening with a grand concert (given to the ladies). The programme of selections had received the careful supervision of such experts as Isaac F. Gorham, Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore, and others, and was as follows :

An overture from "Egmont;" euphonium solo, "Ave Maria;" Mendelssohn's "Capriccioso;" Rossini's "Quis est Homo?" "Sweet Spirit, Hear my Prayer," the Song of the Swan, the Sanctus, and others, concluding with "Old Hundred." The thanks of the one hundred and forty-nine pilgrims was tendered and accepted along with *ducats* from the males, who were not permitted to indulge in the liquid article the *ducats* purchased, the ladies only being the recipients.

The entire journey West, the stay in St. Louis, the parade, the ceremonial work, and the return home will entitle the Shrine to the respect of the thousands with whom they commingled, and will advance the Order in the minds of many.

Incidents of pleasure were innumerable, and few, if any, moments of regret could be found.

The Shriners and ladies while in St. Louis participated in all the festivities attendant upon the Triennial prepared by the St. Louis Knights. River excursions on the famous Mississippi steamers Thos. P. Clouton and Helena. There were music and a spread aboard each boat. The competitive drills, grand band concert—a combination of all the resident and visiting brass bands—all led by the renowned P. S. Gilmore, at the Fair Grounds. The beautiful and novel street illumination, new to many. Parades of the trades display, associations, Veiled Prophets. Gatherings at Tower Grove, Lafayette and Forest Parks. The midnight display of the St. Louis Flambeau Club, with their great pike, Roman candle, mortar battery and rocket company with fireworks, etc. Visitations to various Templar headquarters, California in particular, with her bounteous showing of native wines and fruit, which they doled out with unstinted hand to all callers. Shriners were not lacking in hospitality. Medinah Temple of Chicago was the moving spirit, claiming Moolah Temple of St. Louis as her baby (having been organized but a short time); set to work weeks in advance, brought their elegant costumes and paraphernalia to St. Louis to aid in the beautiful exemplification of the degree, engaged a three-story building, 1612 Pine street, fitted it up as a Shrine headquarters, securing a retinue of servants for the dispensing of refreshments, and held open house

for Triennial week. Shriners and their ladies from all parts of the country were made welcome. Here, elegant Shrine badges and ruffled souvenirs were dispensed. Medinah's Quartet were constantly on hand to entertain with sweet music. Among Mecca's ladies who visited these headquarters and passed a few pleasant hours were Mrs. Geo. W. Millar and daughter, Mrs. James McGee, and Mrs. I. F. Gorham. The souvenirs given out in St. Louis hold an important space in Mecca's archives.

The magnificent procession on Wednesday evening of two thousand Nobles with fez and claws, many in full evening dress, some in Arab costume, twenty-four of Medinah's drilled Nobles in full costume with scimitars, executing intricate movements en route, such as stars, crescents, etc., with bands of music interspersed throughout the line, made a very imposing display. The line of march was through the principal illuminated streets to Druid Hall, Ninth and Walnut streets. Here the ceremonies of the degree were performed upon fifty candidates, under the auspices of Medinah Temple of Chicago, assisted by Imperial Potentate Sam Briggs, of Cleveland, as Potentate; James H. Thompson, of Chicago, Chief Rabban; James McGee, of New York, as Oriental Guide; John T. Brush, of Indianapolis, as High Priest. The hall was packed to the doors. It was the largest assemblage of Shriners ever present at the conferring of the degree. Enthusiasm ran high; many were unable to get in the building. It was a warm September evening. The banquet at the close was the source of much pleasure and enjoyment.

At the conclusion of the ceremony Noble James McGee announced from the rostrum that Mecca would "*receive*" at rooms 101 and 102 (Gen. Chas. Roome and the O. G. giving up their rooms temporarily) of the Lindell Hotel the following day, from 3 to 6 P.M. And they did, as over six hundred can attest, whose appended autographs grace the register used, and received a copy of Liberati's "Arab's Patrol" and a sample of *whole sold* glass-ade and punches. Nobles Geo. W. Millar, Joseph E. Miller, Samuel Terhune, Horace J. Farrington and George H. Fitzwilson did the elegant with honors as hosts à la service of liquids, and the band (J. B. Eakins, Jas. McGee, Chas. T. Griffith, Jas. E. Gritman and others) played "Annie Laurie" and other airy kazoo music. This was one of the pleasant events of this long-to-be-remembered pilgrimage. By special request one hour was given to the reception of the ladies, who entered into the spirit of the humor as did the men.

With all the foregoing—and more, too—to interest and entertain, the time allotted was consumed, returning to New York Saturday evening, September 25. This was Mecca's grandest outing—a pilgrimage that will remain with the participants for time to come.

1886—October 12, Elmira.—In the Directors' Private Car (the use kindly and gratuitously tendered by Nobles E. B. Byington and Chas. H. Cummings), over the Lehigh Valley Railroad, were Nobles John W. Simons, Albert G. Goodall, Wm. D. May, Thomas B. Rand, James McGee, Ed. Gaul, Charles A. Benedict, Robert Macoy, Claudius F. Beatty, George Nicholson, James W. Bowden, Wm. Otis Munroe, Joseph F. Waring, Wm. H. De Graaf, James Cochrane, Valentine Hammann, John H. Bonnington, George Robertson and Wm. H. Muell, en route to Elmira. At Mauch Chunk, General Passenger Agent E. B. Byington and Eastern Passenger Agent Chas. H. Cummings joined us with a bounteous and gratuitous supply of liquids and eatables for the party. At Glen Summit, an elegant supper was served, arranged for in advance by the railroad officials. The time en route was given up to beautiful scenery viewing, joke cracking and cork popping, arriving on time at Elmira. In the evening, Damascus Temple of Rochester, with their costumes and paraphernalia, opened a working session of the Order, and initiated a number of candidates. A pleasant time was spent in Elmira during the session of the Grand Commandery of K. T. of New York; visitation to the Reformatory, carriage rides, dinner at the Club House as the guests of Noble George Robertson. The party returned in the same private car to New York.

1887—Jan. 20–22, Washington, D. C., and Richmond, Va.—A Double Shot.—The Shriners "have been and gone and done it." Mecca Temple, two hundred strong, fully equipped (grip-) sacks packed, met at Pennsylvania Railroad depot, on Thursday, Jan. 20, at 2 P.M. The camels having received their sufficiency of water, they moved on toward the setting sun. A happier nor jollier party never left our city. The party was re-enforced from towns and cities along the line of travel. After canvassing the caravan, there were found sprinkled among the pilgrims the following well-known mortals: Ill. Sam Briggs, of Cleveland, Imperial Potentate of the U. S.; Captain Joe Eakins, Wm. S. Paterson, James McGee, George W. Millar, Charles H. Heyzer, of New York; Chas. G. Heaton, Montpelier, Vt., of the Imperial Council of the U. S.; Captain J. J. Brogan, Vic Arnold, Charles H. Anderson, Stephen Affleck, Geo. W. Anderson, of New York; C. S. Andrews and A. A. Fuller, of Danbury, Conn.; Wm. Berry, E. M. Murtfeldt, W. H. Weston, C. S. Gibbs, E. S. Jacobs, of Newburgh, N. Y.; H. P. Smith and G. H. Grant, of Providence, R. I.; R. E. Holmes, West Winsted, Conn.; L. Long, Waterbury, Conn.; H. N. Curtis and W. A. Cole, Red Bank, N. J.; R. Grey, Ben Osborn, Frank T. Miller, T. O. Ingling, of Newark, N. J.; E. W. Price, H. W. Pope, W. H. Meeker, Ellis R. Meeker, Elizabeth, N. J.; Chas. G. Braxmar, Chas. E. Cumming, Jersey City; Alex. C. Robertson, Montville, Conn.; Charles A. Benedict, Wm. Tunis, Wm. H. De Graaf, James Cochrane, John Shrady, M.D., S. H.

McIlroy, M.D., E. S. D. Shaw, M.D., C. A. Marsh, Harry C. Miner, James A. Davis, Miles H. Dodge, M.D., Hermon J. Emerson, Ed. H. Innet, M. Mullone, Wm. Nealy, Wm. H. Innet, B. D. Banker, James Ferguson, M.D., Isaac Fromme, Geo. H. Fitzwilson, George B. French, Horace J. Farrington, Charles T. Griffith, Edwin Gates, James E. Gritman, J. Stuart Gillen, Valentine Hammann, Jud. Holbrook, John M. Harned, Fred Hamilton, Louis F. Hallen, Emil Kosmak, Jas. Kempster, Geo. Shultz, Chas. P. Ketterer, Wm. C. Locherty, Wm. F. Smith, Geo. C. Lyons, John Little, Wm. D. May, Thomas Moore, M. C. Moran, Wm. McKee, D. D. Naugle, Joseph E. Miller, M. Grimes, Wm. Pratt, John W. Richardson, Mark Mayer, Geo. Shellas, Fred. Schwalenberg, James Snodgrass, A. F. Snelling, Geo. Scott, Samuel Terhune, Wm. Townsend, John B. Underhill, Still. Walker, G. D. Mackey, Joseph F. Waring, T. Winterbottom, Ed. Williams. The majority of the names of the pilgrims, in the excitement and good fellowship of travel, we failed to catch. Mecca never does anything by halves. Their quintet of vocal powers, Messrs. Isaac F. Gorham, George B. Eddy, Amos L. See, H. McEwan, Dr. A. T. Hills, with Organist A. C. Johnson and Cornetist Wm. E. Sayers, accompanied the pilgrims throughout the entire journey. Mecca's caterer, with a staff of stewards, was on hand and served up the viands and etceteras.

The journey was one series of pleasure and enjoyment, each person vying as to who could add the most to make the trip a success. The train of eight Pullman coaches, with the compartment provender car, pulled into the B. & P. depot at Washington an hour behind the set time of arrival. The depot was alive with Nobles, with the well-known fez and claws ; the U. S. Marine Band, under the leadership of Bro. and Prof. Sousa, bearing torches, under escort of Almas Temple of Washington, fifty strong ; Geo. H. Pratt, Ill. Potentate, and T. Jack Newton and Harvey Hazard as committee, and Boumi Temple, seventy-five strong, of Baltimore, Md., with Ill. Nobles William Nickum and John H. Miller in the foreground. The march was taken up under the police guidance of Em. Sir Wm. Moore, Chief of Police of the City of Washington, and, after passing through the principal streets, repaired to the Rifles' Armory, where, under the sceptre of Ill. Sam Briggs, as Potentate, assisted by the officers of Mecca, the degree was fully exemplified in all its grandeur upon sixty-three of the Masons of prominence of the "City of Magnificent Distances."

The degree concluded, all marched to Willard's Hotel, where upward of four hundred Nobles sat down, feasted, sang and made speeches. The following day was devoted to sightseeing, the Washingtonians dividing themselves into committees and showing the visitors the "elephant." Mecca was presented by the Potentate of Almas with a handsomely framed

set of the original thirty-three members of their Temple. Ill. Noble George W. Millar, on behalf of Mecca, received it and thanked Almas.

Promptly at 12.30 Mecca and their hosts with the Marine Band took up their line of march from Willard's, along Pennsylvania avenue, to the Treasury steps, where a photographer had his instruments in readiness, and in four minutes by the watch a group of 400 of the Nobles was focused. Again on the march, passing in review under the carriage arch of the White House, thence along Pennsylvania avenue to the depot. At 1 P.M. away they sped for the capital of the late Confederacy, passing through various points of interest. The weather the entire trip was all that could be wished for. It was delightful. Fancy the little darkies running barefoot, and the reader will have an idea what a burden an overcoat would be. A committee from Acca Temple, among whom were Louis Ecker, Sands and others, came down the road some eighty miles to Quantico to meet and greet the incoming pilgrims.

To enumerate the many acts of courtesy received at the hands of the Richmondites would require a large space. Everything that could be done was done to make the visit an enjoyable one, and Southern hospitality was shown to be unbounded.

At the depot at Richmond, Mecca was met by Acca Temple, under command of Ill. Potentate Preston Belvin and a full band of music. After a parade, Mecca's Nobles, at the supper table of the Ballard-Exchange Hotel, presented a "tony" sight in their full dress suits, and red fez and expensively mounted tiger claws.

As in Washington, Mecca and Ill. Sam Briggs performed the work in a manner to evoke encomiums from all present. The impression left upon the Richmondites will be lasting. The Shrine in that city is a noble success. The banquet was *par excellence.* Speeches, songs and stories kept all amused. Particularly noticeable for his sweet singing was Noble Frank Cunningham, of Acca. On the following morning barouches were at the hotel door, and conveyed the entire party to all points of interest throughout the city. Libby Prison, cemeteries, Soldiers' Home, tobacco factories, River James, Tredegar Iron Works, St. John's Church, etc. Specially worthy of note was the visit to Cullingworth's factory, where fine plug tobacco is manufactured. The proprietor was especially attentive, together with his brother, Noble Cullingworth, Richmond's postmaster. Among the employés was a little darky, who surprised his auditors with a phenomenal voice. As a soprano he would rank with Patti! Noble Harry Miner had his eye on him. The visit to Allen & Ginter's immense cigarette works, where upward of two thousand are employed, was made doubly interesting from the fact that Mr. Pope, the manager, to interest the party, gathered some fifteen young darkies into their packing room, where they

warbled old jubilee songs in a manner to call forth warm commendation and praise. They were grand. The harmony was perfect, and all conceded it the finest ever listened to, and there were some judges in the party. The bass voice, a colored boy of some nineteen years, favored the visitors with a solo. Mecca's quintet, by aid of their tuning-forks, found that he reached B flat. Not being an adept in notes (other than Uncle Sam's), we should suppose that he had reached China. Souvenirs were given the party at every point; cigarettes, plug tobacco, etc., and how "Libby" will stand after this raid we are at a loss to know, for the train was loaded with beams and portions of beams. No collecton will be complete now without a piece of "Libby," and this on the face of the fact that a sign four feet square graces the four walls, making it a penal and finable offense to mar or carry off any portion.

The visit to the Confederate Soldiers' Home, some four miles outside of the city limits, was to many the most interesting of the occasion. Mecca's vocal quintet, by their pleasing songs, drew tears from the eyes of many of the old vets who fought in the late unpleasantness. One old soldier was so touched that he cut from his vest one of his brass buttons and asked Noble McEwen to accept it.

A party in two barouches, consisting of Ill. Sam Briggs, Capt. Joe Eakins, Geo. W. Millar, Jas. McGee, Chas. T. Griffith, Chas. H. Heyzer, Robt. G. Richards, Dr. Horace M. Fairchild, escorted by Ill. Noble Belvin, were about the last to leave after being shown about the grounds.

With many regrets preparations were made for the homeward return. Incidental to the trip was the amusement created by Noble Richards, causing great commotion among the little darkies in their scramble for pieces of silver coin thrown among them. It can be said that it is rare that a party takes such a trip, where everything ran so smooth. Railroads, hotels, in fact all vied with each other as to who could do the most to make all participants happy. Noble McGee was made the recipient of a handsome bank of flowers, arranged with Shrine emblems, by Bro. Stiles, the proprietor of Willard's Hotel, and he did likewise with Bro. Noble Belvin, of Acca, of Richmond. All arrived home safe, happy and pleased, at 7 A.M., Sunday, January 23d.

We had almost forgotten, in the multiplicity of good actions, etc., to state that Boumi, of Baltimore, bedecked each of the Nobles with their beautiful emblematic silver sleeve button, Almas with a handsome gold fez button, and the silk and gold of Acca will be kept as mementos of this pilgrimage—even to the bright silver bell from Noble John H. Miller to Capt. Joe.

The *Washington Herald*, of January 23, thus describes the visit: "The pilgrimage during the past week of Mecca Temple, of New York City, has



SHRINE OF MECCA.

SCOTTISH RITE HALL, MADISON AVE. AND 29th ST., NEW YORK.

given that Order a prominence in Washington which it never enjoyed before. Included in the half hundred or more candidates who were initiated on the occasion, are many of the most prominent members of the Masonic fraternity in this jurisdiction. The New Yorkers as they marched along the avenue on their way to the depot to take their departure were a fine looking lot of men."

1887—Feb. 19-23, Richmond.—A delegation of Mecca visits Richmond.—Mecca's Committee was nobly received, grandly and sumptuously entertained, at Richmond. Nobles Charles A. Benedict, Charles T. Griffith, Charles H. Heyzer, Joseph E. Miller, Charles P. Cocks, Gus Williams and James McGee, who left this city on Saturday evening, February 19th, arrived in Richmond, Sunday, at 10.30 A.M., and were met by a delegation of Acca Temple, consisting of Nobles Preston Belvin, Louis P. Ecker and J. Street, with a special car, and conveyed to the city of Petersburg. Here their numbers were re-enforced by a committee from Appomattox Commandery, with barouches, and driven through the city and to all battlefield points of interest in and about this war-famous town. Acts of courtesy flowed thick and fast, delaying the visitors. After a magnificent banquet the party were escorted to their special car and returned to Richmond, where the attentions paid and unbounded hospitality to the Nobles of Acca Temple were kept up continuously until the party started for home on Tuesday evening. Coaches were constantly on hand during the day, and not a point worth seeing in and about this seven-hilled city that the party missed, visiting Hollywood Cemetery, where sleep among the unnumbered dead the remains of Presidents Monroe and Tyler. Here also is erected the immense pyramid-shaped monument to the Confederate dead. Cullingworth's Tobacco Factory was visited, a great desire having been expressed to again hear the sweet singing of the darkies. The O.G.'s, full of gratitude for the pleasures they had experienced during their last visit, sent full sets of choir books with selected tunes to the colored choristers of both Cullenworth's and Allen & Ginter's factories. Monday evening Acca Temple held its regular monthly meeting, and the work was beautifully exemplified. The surprise of the evening, however, was when the New York delegation brought into the Temple a mysterious package. Noble McGee, with his cohorts, stepped to the centre of the room, and, in a few terse remarks referring to the many kind courtesies and attention Mecca's sons had received at the hands of Illustrious Potentate Belvin, presented him, on behalf of the O. G.'s, a magnificently bound and engrossed photo album (bound in old gold silk plush) of Mecca's officers, a group of her famous Arabs and many familiar faces. On the cover, in solid silver, the word "Mecca." The surprise was complete, and Noble Belvin was "at sea" for a moment, but collected his thoughts sufficient to deliver a

very happy response. Quiet was restored for a few moments, when another surprise broke out. This time it was Mecca's gratitude for attention to her sons while on their visit in January last, in the shape of a beautiful and complete set of gold and platinum Shrine jewels; the best that could be produced from the work bench of that famous worker in precious metals, Noble Ned Williams. Noble McGee's remarks were brief, but to the point, as were those of the Illustrious Potentate; and the pleasurable looks on the faces of the Nobles of Acca were convincing proof that Mecca touched their sensibilities in the right spot, and the gift was appreciated, which is still another tie to bind into closer union Acca and Mecca.

At the close of the labors all repaired to the banquet hall, where Noble Gus Williams did much to entertain and please the gathering. He kept the party happy with his well-told and acted quaint stories, as well as feelingly delivered recitations. He has made many firm friends during his short stay. At the theatre he gave his famous "Oh, What a Night!" and "Captain Mishler;" as an evidence of how the Richmondites appreciated his performances, many were turned away, unable to gain entrance. They unanimously voted him a jolly good fellow, and one of "Mecca's finest." We doubt if ever a delegation spent a more pleasant and glorious time. On the return a short stop was made at Washington, and the party entertained by a number of the Nobles of Almas Temple, and a call made upon the President.

1887—April 25—Troy.—Mecca Temple, with Noble Liberati's Military Band of fifty pieces, assembled at the Produce Exchange Plaza at midday. For half an hour previous to starting the band sent forth sweet musical selections to the admiration of thousands of listeners. At 12.30 P.M. the order was given to "fall in," and off with the finest military precision stepped 300 of New York's F. F.V.'s in citizens' attire, excepting as to head-gear and jewel-bedecked breasts — the now famous red fez and gold-mounted and jeweled tiger claws, formed as the crescent, some of those worn being valued as high as $1,000. The sidewalks along the entire route were crowded. The membership were evidently all gentlemen well known on "'change" or in the business walks of life. Loud plaudits greeted the band for their fine playing, Liberati putting his whole soul into his work, bringing the notes out so clear upon his famous cornet as to be heard blocks distant, until face and fez were the same hue. He was a proud man, this being the initiatory street parade, the elegant uniform topped by a beautiful white fez and large blue tassels being quite a feature.

The route was through Beaver, Broad, Wall, Broadway, Worth, to Jay Street Ferry, connecting with West Shore Railroad. At Weehawken ten elegant coaches were required to haul the party, on the outside of which were placed handsome canvas strips, "Mecca—New York City."

At Haverstraw all were drawn up into a square upon the depot steps, and a photographer in about ten minutes had his camera on them. The trip was replete with pleasantries. It was 8 o'clock before Troy was reached, the freshets causing a circuitous route by way of Schenectady to be taken.

On arriving in Troy they were met by Oriental Temple and large delegations from Cyprus Temple, of Albany, and Ziyara Temple, of Utica, to the number of about three hundred. After a short parade they were escorted to the Troy House, where an opportunity was afforded to care for the inner man by a sumptuous meal. At 10 P.M. Mecca's official corps, Ill. Walter M. Fleming, M.D., Potentate; Wm. D. May and Charles A. Benedict, Chief and Assistant Rabbans; Chas. H. Heyzer, High Priest; James McGee, Oriental Guide; Ed. S. Innet, Marshal; Herm. Emerson and Top Thompson, First and Second Ceremonial Masters; H. Michalis, as Captain of Guard; J. B. Eakins and Geo. W. Millar, Director and Assistant; W. S. Paterson, Recorder; Jud. Holbrook and Jas. Delehey, in their respective positions, with W. K. Brown, Chas. Cumming, Joseph E. Miller, J. B. Hill, Arabian Manipulating Chiefs, performed the work of the degree upon fifty-four candidates.

Noble Jesse Anthony, the Potentate of Oriental, was loud in praise, and stated in a short neat speech of welcome that Mecca's visit had given an impetus to the work in the city of Troy and vicinity which would always be remembered. Preparatory to commencing the work Dr. Fleming explained the nature of the Order.

At 2 A.M. the party were escorted to their special train of elegant sleeping coaches, and passed out of the depot to sweet music from a large singing society of Troy, which came to bid the party bon-voyage. New York was reached early Tuesday morning. One of the main features of the trip was the grand concert given by Liberati's band from the steps of the City Hall, before an assemblage of not less than 5,000; this whilst the Shriners were at work in the Temple. The trombone solo of Fred. N. Innes was so loudly encored that he was compelled to repeat three times.

The banquet was set at Rand's Hall, and 450 Nobles indulged themselves in all the luxuries of the season, as well as listening to toasts, responses, recitations, etc., from Ill. Nobles Fleming, Anthony, Ed. L. Judson, Gus Williams, ex-U. S. Senator Alex. McDonald, Lieut.-Governor Jones, John H. Bonnington, Potentate Lawson, of Cyprus of Albany, Tom Leigh. Mecca's Quintet, Gorham, Eddy, McEwan, See and Dr. A. T. Hills added their share to the pleasures of the evening, as did also Noble Liberati's band from the balcony. Mr. Fred. N. Innes, the world's greatest trombonist, who kindly volunteered his services on behalf of his old-time friend Liberati, was a feature, and called forth deserved rounds of

applause. Ill. Noble Chas. E. Lambert, of the West Shore Railroad, was on the alert for the care and comfort of his fellow Shriners.

Prominent among the party of pilgrims were Gus Williams, Top Thompson, Robt. G. Richards, N. L. Tunis, Chas. A. Benedict, Chas. Heyzer, John E. Rowe, Frank Miller, M. Malone, Ed. Innet, Wm. McKee, Geo. W. Anderson, Wm. Titus, Henry D. McCord, Geo. Nicholson, James Kempster, Dr. W. M. Fleming, Geo. W. Millar, Jas. McGee, J. B. Eakins, Wm. D. May, C. T. Griffith, Chilion Doane, Wm. F. Smith, Wm. T. Goundie, R. Black, Robt. Brown, H. Tuller, Fred Hamilton, Jas. Gritman, Miles W. Goodyear, Jas. Snodgrass, C A. Winch, Ben. Osborn, Jr., L. Palmstine, Wm. H. Meeker, E. Meeker, N. Buchanan, Wm. L. Cole, Chas. H. Rowe, J. D. Beagle, J. Stalker, J. Tice, O. O. Stillman, Chas. P. Ketterer, Thos. Lombard, Chas. H. Usher, Wm. Devoe, Chas. H. Anderson, M. C. Moran, Val. Hammann, C. D. Rhinehart, E. M. Chapin, C. G. Braxmar, S. B. Bradburn, Ed. F. Barnes, G. Toop, W. Schoonover, P. Keenan, I. Terwilliger, J. Many, James W. Bowden, M.D., Thos. Cronan and Arthur Carfoot.

Oriental Temple was presented with a handsome plaque of emblematic Shrine jeweled claws. Thus was shown another practical evidence of Mecca's affection for sister Temples.

Following are extracts from the notice of Mecca Temple that Troy was to be invaded:

"We have ordered out our special camels, amply supplied with aqua destil. (they having been thoroughly rested since our Richmond pilgrimage), to convey Mecca's dusky Arabs to the Trojan city.

To sooth the savage, we have ordered out our full military brass band.

12.30 P.M. the caravan moves.

We are due in Troy at 5 P.M.

In the evening repair to the Temple, and in full form enlighten those in darkness, of whom a vast number are in waiting.

The entire cost of the trip, including transportation (both ways by special train), meals, sleeping (double berth to each individual), will be $5."

1887—June 19–22, Indianapolis, Ind.—Nobles George W. Millar, Charles T. McClenachan, Joseph B. Eakins, James McGee, Charles M. Heyzer, William S. Paterson, P. A. J. Russell, Robert G. Richards, Fred Hamilton, Henry Pape, Jr., George H. Fitzwilson, George M. Foster and Hugh McEwan, of Mecca Temple, left this city on Saturday evening in special Wagner palace sleeping cars, fully provided with all the good things for a four days' pilgrimage for the city of Indianapolis, Ind., to be present and participate in the deliberations of the Imperial Council of the Order, which was to hold its thirteenth annual session in that city on the 20th, and to partake of the festivities and programme of entertainment of the local Shrine Temple, Murat.

The trip was pleasant in every sense, the party being especially selected; naught but good nature and humor predominated, Noble R. G. Richards being specially noticeable for the active part by him taken to keep up the fun. The train left the West Shore Depot on time, passing over the Lake Shore and Bee Line Railroad, arriving promptly on time at 10.30 Sunday evening. They were met at the depot by a large delegation, and escorted to the New Dennison Hotel, the proprietors straining every point for the comfort of their guests. Ill. Nobles George W. Millar and James McGee, the Representative O. G.'s from the Palace of New York, were escorted to their room, upon opening which they were ushered into a complete flower garden. The centre table had been specially arranged by the Palace of Chicago. An immense floriated cowbell, standing four feet high, lettered with immortelles "Chicago to New York, O. G.," was upon a beautiful green plush and silk embroidered covered table. Surrounding the bell were small glasses with the emblems beautifully engraved; two imported seltzer jugs, bronzed and hand painted flowers, and the following lettering on each: "To Jimmy McGee, the Sober O. G."; "To T. J. Leigh, the Gen. O. G." Another one covered with white silk, with hand-painted butterflies, containing a "something" having a strong "blue grass" odor, was dedicated to O. G. Millar. Suspended from the chandeliers were O. G. red signal danger lanterns. The trophies were brought to New York. No stone was left unturned that lasting and the most pleasant recollections would be the result. The receptions, entertainments, drives, etc., were faultless.

The work of the degree by Murat Temple in the evening showed a set of officers who had made a thorough study of Arabic customs, and caused the representatives of sister Temples present to don their thinking caps. Older Temples can take many lessons from this comparatively new Temple. The many tableaux introduced were fine and exceedingly impressive, and reflect upon the research and learning displayed in Murat's corps of officers. The banquet was excellent. The menu, programme of toasts and bronze medals were works of art that will be preserved and treasured.

1888—June 23-28, Toronto, Canada.—Regular session of the Imperial Council. The party left New York via Lehigh Valley Railroad, June 23, enjoyed a halt at Mauch Chunk, dinner at Mansion House, a ride over the famous switchback railroad, and an afternoon ramble through the noted Glen Onoko, with its weird beauties, cascades, waterfalls, etc. At Glen Summit supper was served, and breakfast at Buffalo the following morning; thence to International Hotel, Niagara Falls, where the party remained until Monday morning, enjoying all that was to be seen at this noted resort. Monday morning the party took trains for Toronto, locating at the Rossin House, Shrine headquarters

during stay, and visited every point of interest in this prominent Canadian city. The session of the Imperial Council was concluded on Monday afternoon, the 25th, when the Nobles from Mecca Temple, Walter M. Fleming, M.D., Geo. W. Millar, Joseph B. Eakins, James McGee, Joseph M. Levéy, William S. Paterson, Charles T McClenachan, Charles H. Heyzer and A. W. Peters boarded their train and moved homeward, stopping over at Buffalo for a drive through the city.

1888—Oct. 25, Richmond, Va.—The following dozen Nobles of Mecca made a pleasant little trip to Acca Temple, Richmond, Va., attending their regular session at St. Alban's Hall: Geo. W. Millar, Charles A. Benedict, James McGee, Andrew H. Kellogg, Adrian Futterer, Matthew D. Barr, Joseph E. Miller, M. C. Moran, Gus Williams, Charles O. Hayden and John Salisbury, Jr. At Washington the party was increased by the addition of Imperial Potentate Sam Briggs and several of the members of Almas Temple, of Washington. At Richmond Noble Wm. J. Florence was performing. It was a very happy meeting, and the banquet which closed the evening's labors was very enjoyable, made so by the humorous recitations and stories of Nobles Gus Williams and Sam Briggs.

1889—June 17, Chicago.—Triennial Session of the Imperial Council.—Again did Mecca's Nobles invade the precincts of Medinah Temple, of Chicago. This time the pilgrimage was to take part in the deliberations of the Imperial Council. Going out Mecca was represented by the following officers in the Imperial Council: Joseph B. Eakins, as Deputy Imperial Potentate; James McGee, as Imperial Oriental Guide; Geo. W. Millar, as Imperial Treasurer, and William S. Paterson, as Imperial Recorder. On the return all were High Privates. Mecca's pilgrims visited the stock yards and made pleasant trips throughout the city and suburbs from their headquarters, the Grand Pacific Hotel. Nobles Ed. Hughes and W. Russell, of Medinah Temple, devoted all their time to Mecca's Pilgrims' entertainment.

1889—Sept. 30, Poughkeepsie.—Mecca Temple to the number of one hundred and fifty, with a military band, in special train over the West Shore Railroad, visited the city of Poughkeepsie, where reside quite a contingent of her membership. At this session thirty-four candidates from that city and surrounding country were initiated. There were a parade, bonfires, and a grand time generally.

1890—July 21 to August 20—Yellowstone Park and the Pacific Coast.—Mecca's greatest pilgrimage, one grand success. We have reproduced the account published in *Noah's Sunday Times* as a series of letters from "Jeems."

Yellowstone National Park,
Mammoth Hot Springs, July 29, 1890.

We are enjoying every moment of our trip. Old Sol has favored us as no party of traveling Arabs were ever before. The weather has been *par excellence*. The hottest we have experienced has been since our entry into this National Yellowstone Park, and the party present a good evidence in the sunburnt probosces, faces, necks and hands.

Our special train of Pullman coaches and dining car pulled out of Weehawken on time, and the majestic Hudson opened up to view at Haverstraw Bay.

We arrived at Suspension Bridge an hour ahead of our schedule time. The West Shore Railroad did nobly. Not so the Grand Trunk Railroad. Delay on that road retarded our arrival in the Windy City ("Fair" Chicago) some hours, and interfered with the programme of our Shrine fratres of that city, who had made preparations upon a grand scale for our entertainment. Three set pieces of flowers, huge crescent, O. G. cowbell, and a Maltese cross. Bottles of perfumery for each of the ladies, and the gentlemen were remembered by a gross of "pints," peculiarly labeled. Many courtesies were extended.

At St. Paul we were met by a delegation of Osman Temple, headed by W. H. S. Wright. Coaches were in readiness, and all were driven throughout the city, the dwelling and business sections. After lunch, tickets and special clubhouse badges were presented to each of the party, and, under escort of Osman Shriners, the entire train was drawn to the Twin City Park. It was "Derby Day," and many of our party for the first time saw a running race.

We bid good-by to St. Paul amid many hurrahs and good wishes, and hied us on to Minneapolis. A delegation of the Temple of that city had been with us all day. The lady relatives of the members have rather a strong organization for social purposes, and they received and specially entertained the ladies of our party. Coaches were in readiness here also, and a two hours' delightful ride was indulged. The party were then escorted through the magnificent Masonic Temple, a building they are justly proud of. From here the pilgrims repaired to the West Hotel, about the finest hotel in the West. A sumptuous course banquet was here served. Toasts and responses were made; Illustrious Potentate Dobbin presided. Nobles Geo. W. Millar, for Mecca, New York; Edgar F. Burnham, for Pyramid, Connecticut; A. B. Lyman, M.D., for Boumi, Baltimore; Hon. Geo. West, for Oriental, Troy; H. L. Turner, for Acca, Richmond, Va. When the banquet was over coaches were in readiness at ten o'clock, and conveyed the party to our special train, which sped us on to the Cyclone City of Fargo, North Dakota, where a delegation of Shriners met us and enter-

tained us with an inspection of their immense wheat fields, and presented the party with a very handsome silk banner having the name of their Temple and Mecca Temple beautifully inscribed, with the emblem of the Shrine.

At Jamestown our train was boarded by W. Bro. John W. Carroll, formerly of Chancellor Walworth Lodge, No. 271, New York, but for the past nine years located at Steele, Kidder Co., N. Dakota, where he was instrumental in forming "Chancellor Walworth Lodge" of that section, called after his mother lodge. Our train was halted at his residence, which is some two miles from the city, and stands solitary and alone in this broad-acred country. Several cans of fresh cool milk were served by Bro. Carroll, and a pleasant half hour spent with his interesting family. En route several stops were made by the conductors of the train, who were to us exceedingly courteous and obliging in their endeavors to make our journey pleasant. At Livingston the delegation and committee from Helena met us. They will remain with us until after we have done Yellowstone Park and return to Livingston. In fact, the Helena Shriners have committees in galore, and propose (from what we can learn) to make our stay in their oasis memorable. No such time has ever been accorded any organization as that they have mapped out for Mecca's pilgrims—as we are now known throughout the land.

Nobles Benj. Folk and E. Lamartine, of the Helena Committee, have been lavish with their services and attentions. Just fancy gentlemen leaving their vocations and remaining with us for a full week. Noble Lamartine is the U. S. Engineer, and has developed and laid out all the roads throughout the Park. He is a wonder—all get up and go. His powers of endurance are immense, and his affability has made him a general favorite with the pilgrims. There is not an inch of ground of this Yellowstone Park that he is not familiar with—having traversed it at all seasons of the year, afoot, horseback and in wagon, as well as on snow-shoes in winter. The result of his labors is discernible upon roads, mountain sides and through forests. We could not have fallen into better hands.

We left Livingston and turned into the branch to Cinnabar (the gate to the Park) on Friday, July 25th, about noon, where tally-ho and Concord coaches were in waiting to convey us to the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, an immense building with all modern improvements, except elevator. A band discourses sweet music. We arrived here for dinner, after which we re-entered our coaches and were borne through a remarkable country over fine roads; in part somewhat dusty, owing to the lack of appropriation on the part of Uncle Sam. The appropriation for this year will not be forthcoming until it is too late to be of any service this summer, when it is actually needed—another evidence of tardiness and redtape. This is one

place in our U. S. sphere where the money spent shows itself. The entire appropriation for the purpose since the park came into government hands has been over $200,000, and for this about 240 miles of road are to be seen, and elegant roads they are, and through such a country of rocks, marsh, forest, etc., that, if the same was desired in our Metropolitan section of country, $2,000,000 would not produce the result of Noble Lamartine's labors here. He is, in the language of this section of country, no tenderfoot, but a hustler from way back.

Within the Park are miles upon miles of pine trees, which stand skeleton-like, bare-limbed, leafless and lifeless, from the effect of fires.

Our ride was glorious, cool and pleasant to Norris Geyser Basin, where supper was served, Noble Kelley, of Tacoma, being in charge. He knows how to run a hotel, but his facilities for housing people are somewhat cramped through a fire, which demolished a sixty-thousand dollar hotel standing near the present shedlike house. As the accommodations were insufficient for our party, it was deemed best, notwithstanding the hour (8 P.M.), to make a still further push onward to Lower Geyser Basin Hotel, some eighteen miles, where we were informed that accommodations ample were in waiting to care for our entire party. The ride was full of incident, being over mountains, through ravines, cañons, forests and close to steep precipices. Many rivers were forded, and it was 12.30 before the conveyances pulled up at the hotel, one of such limited space that the party were compelled to double up and suffer discomforts not down on the programme. Here was our first evidence that this Yellowstone Park Association had bit off more than they could chew. We were not the only party in the Park. Excursion parties were constantly coming and going. The managers of the several hotels are put to their wits' end in their endeavor to house and sleep the people. The syndicate who run the hotels in this Park are nothing more than an antediluvian set of old fossils. Either the wool is pulled over their eyes by the hotel superintendent, or they are blind to their own interests. You are received at the first hotel in grand style, band playing, every attention shown. As you leave it, you hear the same sweet strains of music, all to create an impression. Presto—change! What do you get at the balance of the hotels? Cold comfort, huddled in like sheep, as many as they can pile into a room, and as was the case at the much advertised elegant and massive Grand Cañon Hotel, near the Yellowstone Falls, with its two hundred rooms, but fifty of which are furnished. Trying to accommodate about two hundred people in fifty rooms is not an overpleasant job for a manager. Scarcity of bedding, no water, no towels, no grub. A beautiful dilemma. Some pilgrims occupied chairs over night; others walked the deck. We are informed this is not a common occurrence. It is true, it

was but for one night, but at the prices charged it should not occur at all. There is bad management here; and if the Association don't know it, it is about time they learned. This rather put a temporary damper upon our party. The grandeur and beauties of the great Yellowstone Park are here; the hotel management needs a revolution. People who come here to camp out expect to take potluck, but, when they pay full price for first-class hotel service and then get left, they naturally feel sour and are not good advertising mediums. But enough of this.

We are now through the worst experience and back to the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, where, as before stated, you are treated nearest right. Our beds and meals are duly appreciated after our Sunday evening experience. Good humor prevails. Last evening we were treated to a hop—for Mecca's special pleasure—oil, as it were, intended to still the troubled waters.

Our midnight ride to Lower Geyser Basin will be matters for historic writers to note. It was the first ever attempted by any party since the organization of the Park In going over it, Doc Ellison saw several spots where he and Tom Leigh gave shows way back in 1806, and Jim Randolph took tickets. We are booked to leave here this evening at 7.30.

I must not close this without giving an insight into one of the famous characters of the Park. I refer to "Larry" Matthews, or, as his spot by the wayside is familiarly known, "Larry's." He is, indeed, a character. He holds, as it were, the halfway house between Lower Geyser Basin and the Grand Cañon, and serves up a cold lunch, but in a very neat style. He claims to be a "Delmonican," and from what he verbally announces as his *menu*, you would fancy you were to be treated to a ten-course spread, when all that you get is cold ham, tongue, potatoes, tea or coffee (served in dippers). The wind blows some in this section; he declares that he always has *dust and flies* on his bill of fare, and that everybody is welcome to anything in his tent except himself, and he belongs to his wife, a comely woman, who aids him in his labors of tending to the wants of the inner man. He is ready witted and full of quick answers to the many questions he is plied with.

A few hours given to a stay at "Larry's" amply amend for other Park shortcomings. "JEEMS."

HELENA, MON., August 2, 1890.

My last communication to you was from Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel, just prior to our leaving the famous National Yellowstone Park. From the above you will readily see that we have traversed considerable ground, seen a vast amount of country, and, I will add, had a royally good time generally. In fact, that does not express it. Inky words are too cold to express

the warmth of the grasp of the friendly hands met with all along the line. It has been one series of courtesies, receptions, kindnesses, attentions, banquets, etc. No matter the size of the city, all turned out to do us honor.

One matter must not go unnoticed, the wonderful popularity of our institution; every one seems to take active interest in it. One would imagine that every other mortal met with was a Shriner, they seemed so thick everywhere you go. The Northern Pacific Railroad officials are all tainted that way. Every Division Superintendent is a member and was deeply anxious for our welfare. Especially worthy of mention were Superintendents A. J. McCabe, J. E. Phelan, F. H. Marsh and J. S. Finn; their private cars were attached to our train and our every wish consulted. Our train was halted at various points of interest en route—"Bad Lands," for instance, where all were privileged to alight and gather specimens of petrified trees, etc. They took pleasure in explaining the country we passed through. In fact, the officials of the various railroads over which we passed were extremely courteous, supplying us with their best men, with instructions to explain everything of note along the route, and to see that everything that could be done for our comfort and welfare was properly attended to. Noble W. J. C. Kenyon, General Passenger Agent of the Chicago, Burlington and Northern, in person remained with us from Chicago to Minneapolis, the entire length of his road. The West Shore, the Grand Trunk, the Chicago and Grand Trunk, each had their representative. Noble W. T. Fitzgerald, Passenger Agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad, remained with us from Portland, Oregon, to San Francisco.

Monday Evening, July 28.—After supper we entered our coaches, bid good-by to Yellowstone Park—a pleasant ride of eight miles along the Yellowstone River, through the remnant of what was once rather (in the vulgar vernacular) a "tough" town, called Gardner, and we arrived at Cinnabar, where our special train was in waiting. As each coach drove up, the pilgrims seemed inspired alike, for "Home again" rang out upon the still air from voices that meant it—for our cars seemed like home to all hands, after our week's absence. Our colored porters, cooks and waiters, stewart and baggage-man included, wore smiles which showed that they, too, were glad to be with us again. Very much of a homelike feeling had grown up among the pilgrims, and our crew of fifteen, Pullman Conductor Mark Brooks, Steward W. H. Arms, five waiters, four cooks, three porters and baggage-man, the latter an extremely polite young man, ever willing to lend a hand to get a trunk or grip. Every one seemed to work in harmony and use their utmost endeavors to make the trip, what it finally panned out, a complete success.

A parting salute by the band and giant fire-crackers by Pyrotechnist Noble J. S. Mundy, and we hauled out of Cinnabar. Half an hour brought

us to Livingston, Montana, where we remained until the following day, Tuesday, the 29th. The evening of Monday was devoted to doing the city under the guidance of a resident delegation from Algeria Temple, Noble Ben Folk included, with our old New York friend Ralph Briggs, who has joined the band, and is now one of the permanent residents of Big Timber, a full-fledged cowboy—a tenderfoot no longer, as they term all newcomers to that section of the country. The ladies of the party, as well as a number of the male pilgrims, devoted considerable time to inspecting a taxidermist's store, who had a tamed lioness and other tamed wild pets, as well as beautiful specimens of elk heads, Indian trophies and curiosities, some of the party making purchases. The freedom of the local club was extended to the pilgrims.

Fighting the tiger in plain view by day and night is as fashionable in this section as bull fights in Mexico. The pilgrims were getting so acclimated that the lightness of the air had prepared them for most anything in the way of novelty, and the frequency of signs, "Licensed Gambling Saloon," over the doors "didn't shock worth a cent," as they say in the Montana classics. If your scruples were such that you would not enter, you could take it in from the door, which is invariably open. The tables are filled with those desirous of increasing their wealth at the games, where the more you put down the less you take up is the general rule.

A good night's rest at Livingston prepared the party for the grand time in store at Helena, where we arrived at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, accompanied by a strong representation of Algeria's membership, who reside at Livingston and along the line of the road, among whom were ministers, bankers, wealthy ranchmen, mining capitalists ; in fact, everybody who amounts to anything in that part of the country, and we may say all through the West as well, are Shriners.

At Helena preparations had been going forth for at least three weeks for our entertainment. The Committee of Arrangements, with Noble John W. Thompson as Chairman, assisted by Nobles C. B. Nolan, Potentate; A. C. Logan, George Booker, John Steinmetz, B. W. S. Folk, H. N. Guthrie, T. H. Kleinschmidt, Ed L. Zimmerman and Jas. Hathaway, had made subcommittees, whose duties covered every conceivable inch of ground. The subcommittees consisted of one hundred and thirty-seven Nobles, divided into the following committees: Broadwater Natatorium, Photograph, Carriages, Armory Hall Reception, National Park Escort, Banquet, Refreshments, Commissary, Decorations, Tables, Music, Printing and Souvenir, Finance, Banquet, Procession, etc. Mention is here made of these facts that some conception may be had as to the expense and time consumed by our Helena fratres for our enjoyment.

Our train was switched to the Natatorium track and taken to the Hotel Broadwater. There we were received by the several committees. Col. Broadwater had closed the Natatorium to all but Nobles of the Shrine and their ladies and friends from 2 until 5 P.M. This was a treat indulged by all, and duly appreciated, when it is considered that we had but lately left Yellowstone Park behind, where we had consumed considerable more than our peck of earth in the shape of dust. If the waste pipes were not choked up after the bathing pilgrims got through, it must have been because the dust was so light.

The swim in this thermal lake was very invigorating and refreshing. Evidence of the committee's work was upon every hand. The Capital City band discoursed sweet music from a platform in the northeast corner of the bath. The grounds were tastefully laid out. A canopy of evergreens and flowers covered a large fountain. "Welcome, Mecca," and "Mecca—Algeria, Welcome!" greeted us upon many sides. The beauties of the Natatorium, the grandest thing of the kind in America, have been so fully described in print that I refrain from taking up space here, although too much cannot be said in its praise, and its worthy proprietor, Col. Broadwater, who so liberally tendered the freedom of this famous resort to the Mecca pilgrims. The bath over, carriages were in waiting, and the entire party were driven to and through the city of Helena. Each carriage was supplied with a committeeman, who pointed out all buildings and points of prominence. Many were driven to the private residences of local Shriners and made welcome. All were finally taken to the train, there to prepare for the grand reception at Armory Hall in the evening at 7 o'clock, which had been elaborately prepared and profusely decorated for the banquet which was to bring to a pleasant terminus this glorious reception. Coaches were sent to our train to convey Mecca's pilgrims and pilgrimesses to the banquet hall. The party was fully an hour in getting there—one continuous stream of carriages—of the F. F. V.'s of Montana. Covers were laid for three hundred. The tables were magnificent, the menu Helena's best. Every Noble was compelled to secure a lady. The addition of a ladies' committee greatly aided the Nobles in this dilemma. In the grand march all were provided.

After the feast had been indulged, Noble A. C. Logan introduced Governor Toole, who responded for the citizens of Montana, extending a hearty welcome to their city in the mountains. The Governor was exceedingly happy in his remarks, closing with the wish that this might prove the forerunner of other and more extended privileges to their Mountain State.

A beautiful solid Montana silver souvenir was presented to each individual—a crescent with a star suspended from the centre. Engraved upon the crescent were the words "Mecca—Algeria," and upon the star "90."

Potentate C. B. Nolan then greeted Mecca upon behalf of Algeria, in a very pleasing speech. Here is where our orator got in his fine work. Noble George W. Millar "did himself proud" in his response for Mecca. We quote: "We come here to be talked to and promised not to talk. You complain that our visit is too short. Why, my dear Noble, we have been under the wing and guidance of Algeria for over a week. As soon as we entered your State we were met by a committee from this Temple, and every attention has been shown us since. In behalf of Mecca Temple and Mecca pilgrims, I return thanks for the many courtesies shown us upon this pilgrimage. We are no talkers, but we have a band that we are proud of, and you will hear from it if you so desire.

Here entered the band under the leadership of "Capt. Joe"—Thad. Beecher, W. Frisbee, O. Smith, Geo. Watkins, J. S. Mundy, Andrew H. Peck, Doc Ellison, James McGee, J. H. Witbeck, Geo. W. Millar, H. L. Turner, P. H. Bresnan and Robt. Taggart. They brought forth the most difficult Wagnerian airs with the greatest ease, and were loudly applauded.

Dr. A. B. Lyman responded for Boumi Temple; Edgar F. Burnham, for Pyramid.

Floral pieces and banners were presented to the pilgrims. Cheers were given Algeria and Mecca. The hour of departure was at hand, and, amid many regrets at parting, the carriages bore the party to their train.

As the pilgrims' time was limited, in order to keep faith en route with promises made to Nobles at Tacoma, Portland and San Francisco, it was found that it would be impossible for them to remain at Spokane Falls the required time to confer the degree, as well as the time necessary to institute El Katif Temple at that place. Sixteen of the officers and members of Algeria Temple, headed by Ill. Potentate W. M. Baldwin, volunteered to go forward and confer the degree. For their use a special sleeper was added to our train, and they became the guests of the Mecca pilgrims until arrival at Spokane Falls.

San Francisco, Cal., Aug. 4, 1890.

We arrived at Spokane Falls, Washington, at 3.30 o'clock, on Thursday, July 31, where a delegation of Shriners and their ladies were in waiting with carriages to drive the party over the entire city. The resident ladies then took charge of the visiting ladies, and escorted them to the Hotel Spokane, while the Shriners repaired to the Masonic Hall, where George W. Millar, who was deputized to institute El Katif Temple, performed that duty, assisted by Nobles James McGee, Marshal, W. M. Baldwin, John W. Thompson, Richard Lockey, C. B. Nolan, Joseph P. Eakins, Captain of Guard. Ill. Noble C. S. Scott was installed as Potentate. He

is a bright, smart young man, with a vast amount of Western pluck and push, and we look forward to El Katif as one of the successful Temples of the Order in the West.

At 5 o'clock a most bounteous banquet had been spread at the Hotel Spokane, and Mecca Pilgrims, ladies included, speak of this as one of the grandest served en route. Short addresses, by reason of time limit, became the order. Bro. Louis Ziegler's address of welcome was well received. The pilgrim's orator was again called into service, and responded nobly, closing by saying that Spokane's water power caught his eye, and "that, if George W. Millar ever came West to live, *Spokane* was good enough for him, as he knew the value of that water power." At the work in the evening there were forty-three candidates who crossed the heated sands—pretty good for a starter.

Mecca Pilgrims left Spokane Falls at 6 P.M., mid bombs bursting in air and cannon crackers as well. This city shows wonderful progress. It has, indeed, Phœnixlike, risen from its ashes of wood to a magnificent mass of brick and stone. Some of the finest structures met in the East are here duplicated, and the work goes bravely on.

This article has been so much taken up with the good time given us by our Western hospitable fratres that we have drifted from a description of the cities and country through which we have passed. Under the circumstances readers will please pardon this oversight

Friday, Aug. 1, 11 A.M.—We arrived at Tacoma, the city of prominence in the State of Washington. The Nobles of Afifi Temple had known by telegraph of our expected time of arrival and were on the watch for us. You can't catch those wild Westerners asleep. They came down the road in a special car to meet, greet and escort us to their city. Nobles I. W. Pratt, F. H. Case, Dr. John T. Lee, A. McClaino, J. T. Mitchell, W. G. Rowland, L. R. Kinnear and R. Ketner were the committee or advance guard.

Carriages, as in previous instances, were waiting, and in each was placed one of Tacoma's Nobles, who took pleasure in pointing out all places of note. The ride consumed about two hours. The business portion of the city was visited as well as the manufactories and residences. At 1 o'clock lunch was served at the Tacoma Hotel. The balance of the day and evening was spent in sightseeing. Every moment was enjoyed, under escort of the members of Afifi Temple.

A number of the pilgrims took the steamer and made a very pleasant visit up Puget Sound to the city of Seattle. Here they thought to steal a march, but they found resident members of Afifi Temple on the lookout, who escorted them about the city and showed what enterprise and pluck could produce in so short a time, for all will remember that a short year

ago the major portion of this city was reduced to ashes. Stone and brick have taken the place of wood, and really the fire proved a blessing in replacing the palaces for the hovels. An amusing matter to the pilgrims was to see and hear the great jealousies that exist among the residents of these many Western cities. One real estate agent was elaborating upon the superiority of Tacoma over Seattle. The Seattle agent vice versa. The Tacomaite told us to make great allowance for whatever statement was made by a Seattle man, so much so that he told us to cut all statements made in two, and then divide the product by eight. This we thought rather disparaging and to be taken with an allowance of a grain or two. The return by boat was delightful. Puget Sound is a beautiful body of water. The meal served upon the steamer was excellent. How our pilgrims indulged in fresh salmon (nothing of a treat in this section) showed that they knew when they had a good thing.

Eleven of the pilgrims went by way of the railroad, and on the return became delayed by reason of a derailed train, so that they failed to connect with our train leaving Tacoma for Portland at 12 o'clock that evening, but they met us early in the morning in time to take the sail up the Columbia River, as arranged by the Nobles of El Kader Temple, of Portland, Oregon, on board the steamer "Potter." Mecca Pilgrims, before leaving Tacoma, dined the members of Afifi Temple in the dining car of their special train.

Our reception and entertainment at the hands of El Kader Nobles of Portland, Oregon, will ever remain fresh in our memories. Immediately upon our arrival in that hospitable city, our train was boarded by a committee, who loaded us down with ripe fruit of such size as to stagger our pilgrims. Never before did their eyes and palates feast upon peaches, plums, pears, etc., so mammoth in size and so luscious, and in such abundance. This was simply a forerunner of what was to follow.

We arrived in Portland bright and early the morning of August 2. El Kader's Nobles had chartered the steamer "T. J. Potter" for an excursion up the Columbia River, and she was in waiting at the dock, but a short walk from our train. Upon boarding the steamer we found that the Portland Nobles and their ladies were on board in force to receive us with the Marine band. Introductions all around, and before we were an hour on the water one would imagine that it was as one family that had been acquainted for years. Our five hours' sail up and down the river was exceedingly pleasant, and enjoyed by all. Sweet music and a bountiful supply of fruit and drinkables were constantly on tap. Bowls of punch were kept continuously filled from the moment we left the wharf. It was impossible at any stage of the game to catch a glimpse of the bottom of the bowls. The salt air seemed to have an appetizing and drinketizing effect upon all. Mecca Pilgrims' orchestra performed several of their finest

selections, which were well received. The local press termed it a "kinder symphony with variations." No doubt the lightness of the air had something to do with it. Many diversions were entered into, which aided in causing the trip to be doubly enjoyed. El Kader's ladies, of whom there were a large number, were very solicitous for the pleasure of the lady pilgrims.

Nobles J. W. Pratt and W. E. Curle (punch manipulator) of El Kader, and H. A. Gullixson of Islam, as well as others of the committee whose names have slipped us, were exceedingly anxious for the care, comfort and welfare of the pilgrims, and were here, there and everywhere.

A beautiful luncheon of soups, fish (delicious fresh Chinook salmon), stewed chicken, cold meats, fruits, melons, etc., etc., was served in the dining-room by Steward Reed of the steamer Potter, and greatly relished. Passing Vancouver, on the Columbia River, and proceeding up the Willamette River, the adjacent hills of Portland stood out in bold relief, and their majestic beauty was greatly admired.

About twelve o'clock noon we reached the wharf, where our thoughtful fratres had a long line of carriages in waiting, and conveyed us throughout the city and suburbs to the City Park, Knob Hill and Riverview Cemetery, through finely foliaged streets, and, finally, back to our train, to which a special Pullman car was attached, containing the following Portland Nobles and ladies, who become our guests until arrival in San Francisco : Prof. I. W. Pratt, John R. Foster, H. F. Gullixson, Prof. T. H. Crawford, Miss Mina Smith, Miss Gussie La Camp, Alexander Thomas, F. W. Bates and wife, Hon. E. B. McElroy and wife, D. L. Williams, C. W. Johnson, J. H. Whitham, T. J. Bass and daughter, and F. A. Starr.

Four o'clock, mid many God-speeds and good-byes, cheers, and the Mundy and Eakins pyrotechnic display, our train started southward, regretting that our stay could not have been prolonged.

Our journey lay over the famous Shasta Route of the Southern Pacific Railroad, over which Noble T. H. Goodman, of Islam, presides as General Passenger Agent. That nothing might go amiss, he deputized Noble W. T. Fitzgerald, one of his special passenger agents, to join us at Tacoma, and remain with us to the end of their system of railroad. His complete knowledge of every inch of the ground traversed, greatly enhanced the pleasures of our trip.

We pass through a delightful country, fertile in green fields, orchards, and vineyards, through the venerable Oregon City, parallel with a beautiful river, with a fine fall, utilized for manufacturing purposes. The crown of Mount Shasta soon hove in sight ; in fact, we could not seem to lose sight of it until darkness of the night of the 3d hid it from view. Its snow-covered peaks and sides kept constantly in view. Just fancy us traveling

along, with thermometer at about 75°, and snow within gunshot of us (at least it looked as close as that). All day Sunday we journeyed, and at a rapid speed, but we could not seem to gain a foot upon that "Shasta," which stood out, that 14,000 feet high of mountain.

During Sunday our train halted at several soda springs, where the thirsty pilgrims quaffed a goblet or two of the cooling waters. Farther on we came across a grand spectacle, a cascade running down the broad and sloping grassy side of a mountain, the waters shooting out here and there in great force through the thick grass and timber, wending its way until it meets a swift running stream at the mountain base, continuing parallel with the mountain base for miles. The kodaks of Nobles George Watkins, Andrew Peck, and J. S. Mundy were kept constantly in action to depict these particular bright spots on the journey.

En route we pass Hon. Leland Sanford's vineyard at Vina, the largest in the world. The tortuous windings of the railroad as it treads the narrow gorges and cañons are bewildering in the extreme. The wild sterility and bold desolation of mountain scenery are forgotten in these marvelous stretches of verdure clad valleys and slopes, while all that is stupendous and majestic is furnished in the gigantic mountain peaks which pierce the clouds.

Monday morning, August 4, we arrived at Sacramento (ninety-one miles from San Francisco), the capital of California. The capitol building is one of the most complete and costly in the United States, situated in a park of twenty-five acres, the grounds of which are terraced and filled with tropical vegetation. Fine specimens of the fan, date, and other palms; olive trees, twenty-five feet high, in full bearing; the yucca, from Mexico, with its pyramids of white flowers; umbrella pine, from Italy; the finest variety of acacia, from Australia; redwoods and Monterey cypress; borders of the choicest pettisporum, magnolias, pomegranates, oleanders, crape myrtles, roses, geraniums, etc. Here is a collection to suit the taste of the greatest connoisseur. Within the building, immediately beneath the finely frescoed dome, is the splendid group in marble by Meade—Columbus before Isabella—cut in Italy, and presented to the State by D. O. Mills, the banker.

Islam's resident Nobles were out in force, and seemed desirous of getting the start of their San Francisco Nobles. Carriages were immediately brought into service. and a drive through the city, all the principal thoroughfares, and out into the country as well. Sutter's Fort, a California landmark, was visited, and the racecourse. Finally, the carriages were halted in front of a magnificent building with beautiful grounds, which proved to be the Art Gallery—Mrs. Crocker's gift to the city. We entered, and rambled through its broad halls and

rooms, the walls of which are completely covered with a grand collection of costly oil paintings, among which are portraits of California's early pioneers. Portions of the building are set apart for relics. Here is the last rail of the Central Pacific Railroad, which connected the Atlantic with the Pacific. One floor is covered with elegant statuary, models, etc.; another has specimens of the valuable ores found in the State. After registering the pilgrims, we rejoined our coaches, and were driven to the Capitol building, described above. Here the many elegant rooms were inspected. Secretary of State W. C. Hendricks kindly received the party, and welcomed them, at the same time presenting each with a large document bearing the great golden seal of California, with his autograph attached, together with interesting literature pertaining to the State's history.

A short drive brought us to the Masonic Hall, where our hosts had prepared a surprise for us. On mounting the stairs we found the main hall turned into an immense banquet hall—tables spread, loaded down with the good things that are so plentiful in that country. There were wines and wines and wines, and fruits and fruits and fruits, not alone upon the tables, but under the tables and upon all sides; boxes upon boxes of fresh French prunes, plums, grapes, peaches, pears, apricots, etc.; sandwiches, cakes, cold meats, etc. Wm. Johnston, W. D. Knight, J. E. Mills, and Charles Coghlan, resident Nobles, were extremely anxious that Sacramento should keep her end up—and she did, without a doubt.

The 11.30 train due from San Francisco brought Vice-President Crocker's private car, loaded with good things, with some twenty-two of Islam's best. The familiar faces of genial Potentate Charles L. Field and John H. Gray were among them, joining the party at Masonic Hall, where speeches were indulged in, Mecca's orator coming to the front in the nick of time and ordered cheers for Sacramento's Nobles and their generous hospitality. Their private car, which was beautifully decorated, was also attached to our train. On the platform, previous to starting, the Pilgrim Orchestrion, wind and string, gave their crowning effort of the trip, closing with "How Can I Leave Thee?" and "Roll, Jordan, Roll!" 'Mid whistling bombs, cannon crackers and cheers, the train of pilgrims, with its addition of jolly good people, added to what, as a whole, made the finest party that ever started out on a voyage of sightseeing, moved onward to the Golden Gate.

A short run through prolific fruit orchards and vineyards, as well as boundless fields of wheat, and we arrive at Benicia, California's former capital. Here we cross San Pueblo Bay to Porta Costa, on the largest steam ferryboat in the world. Our train is conveyed bodily across the bay

upon this steamer, which is supplied with four steel tracks and can convey twenty passenger cars at one trip. Mare Island is passed in crossing the bay.

We journey westward, and finally arrive at Oakland, bid good-by to our train, embark on the ferryboat, and cross the bay to the city of San Francisco, to the Market Street wharf, where conveyances are in waiting to convey us to our domicile, the Palace Hotel, in the immense open court of which, after performing our ablutions and partaking of dinner, Islam Temple, headed by a band, formally received and welcomed us.

We have enjoyed every moment since our arrival. Islam's committee issued and distributed a very neat four-page programme, with title embossed in gold, inscribed "Nobles of the Mystic Shrine—Islam-Mecca Festivities, San Francisco, August, 1890." The inner pages contained the week's festivities, as follows:

PROGRAMME.—August 4, 1890.—Monday, 4 P.M., Arrival of the Mecca pilgrims under escort of Islam Reception Committee; 7.30 P.M., Gathering of Nobles in Palace Hotel court; Concert by the Palace Band; Islam-Mecca greeting.

Tuesday, August 5.—In and about San Francisco; 8.30 P.M., Reception, the ladies and Nobles of Islam welcome the ladies and Nobles of Mecca; Palace Hotel parlors, second floor; full dress and fez.

Wednesday, August 6.—7.45 A.M., Boat leaving foot of Market Street; Narrow Gauge; Islam-Mecca Caravan to the Big Tree Grove and Santa Cruz; 12 A.M., Bull's Head breakfast in the Redwoods; 2 P.M., Surf bathing in the Pacific at Santa Cruz Beach; cool sands.

Thursday, August 7.—Golden Gate Park and Cliff House; 8.30 P.M., California Theatre; Islam-Mecca theatre party; after which all Nobles will escort their ladies to Islam Oasis, 131 Post Street, where a collation will be served; full dress and fez.

Friday, August 8.—Oakland Day; 11.15 P.M., Narrow Gauge Ferry; a drive through the "City of the Oaks," Berkeley, Piedmont, Lake Memte, the "Athens of the Pacific."

Saturday, August 9.—10 A.M., Boat leaves foot of Market Street, Islam-Mecca Bay excursion: Alcatraz, Angel Island, through the "Golden Gate," out upon the Pacific; 3 P.M., Islam Oasis, 131 Post Street, "Zemzem." No ceremonies, but the sands will be hot.

"Welcome, Ye Pilgrims!" Islam's greeting to all Nobles and their ladies.

In addition to the foregoing programme, each Noble and lady received a handsome souvenir pin, representing a scimitar (in silver), upon the centre of the blade a beautiful gold Sphinx head, inscribed "Islam—Mecca, 1890."

We are about leaving this goodly city, where we have been so hospitably entertained during the past week, where Islam's Nobles have more than carried out their promise, "Whoso seeketh Islam shall inherit the earth." We cannot alone vouch for that, but can go farther, and include the waters (Zemzem).

It has been a gala week in 'Frisco. The press gave column after column of matter pertinent to the occasion. The *Call* of August 4 devoted a full page, in which they produced lifelike portraits of A. W. Peters, C. T. McClenachan, Joseph B. Eakins, Dr. Walter M. Fleming, George W. Millar, Dr. S. R. Ellison, James McGee, W. S. Paterson, Robt. H. Smith, Robt. P. Lyon, C. A. Benedict, A. Liberati, of Mecca Temple; J. W. Knowlton and Thad. Beecher, of Pyramid Temple of Bridgeport, Conn.; J. K. Ashby, of Hella of Dallas, Texas; Charles L. Field, V. D. Duboce, John H. Gray, Franklin H. Day, Dr. C. G. Kenyon, B. P. Flint, C. L. Patton, E. H. Hanson and L. Glass, of Islam Temple, San Francisco.

The first evening in 'Frisco was spent by a number of the Nobles attending a conclave of Golden Gate Commandery, No. 16, K. T., and witnessing the conferring of the Red Cross degree, and participating in a banquet at its close. Many more made a tour of Chinatown, visiting the Chinese theatres, Joss houses, restaurants, etc., Islam's Nobles performing the part of guides.

The following day (Tuesday) the pilgrims enjoyed themselves in various ways. Delegations took rambles through the principal business thoroughfares. The large wine house of Kohler & Frohling was inspected, with its millions of gallons of wine in casks, that would answer, in many localities, for dwellings for good-sized families. The entire process of caring for the various kinds of wine was shown the party, samples of which were freely served. The Chinese business quarters were visited, their elegant goods inspected, and many purchases made, which will serve as reminders of this visit to the land of gold. To prevent any of the visiting pilgrims from going astray, getting lost or "took in," Islam's trusty Arabs were ever on the alert and *wid 'em.*

In the evening occurred a grand transformation scene. The main parlors of the Palace Hotel had been tastefully decorated with living plants and bunting. In the southwest hall a temporary buffet was erected, supplied with refreshing and cooling Zemzem waters to quench the thirst. A string band rendered sweet music from the large bay window in the south parlor. Hosts and guests mingled, some chatting, others promenading and dancing. The costumes of both resident and visiting ladies were very fine, whilst the male pilgrims had unloaded their trunks, smoothed out the wrinkles from their clawhammers, and with fez and claws

appeared in full evening dress. Having been attired in a negligé shirt, tan-colored shoes and traveling suits so long, when we appeared at our best, introductions were almost necessary; in fact, Capt. Joe, Doc. Ellison, Capt. Jack (George Watkins) and a few others had to be vouched for.

During the evening, Past Potentate F. H. Day, of Islam, delivered a very happy and witty speech, welcoming the pilgrims to California. The pilgrim's orator, Noble George W. Millar, responded, thanking the Nobles of Islam for the cordial reception, and extolled the bounteous hospitality and good feeling displayed toward the pilgrims since their advent to the shores of the Pacific. Cheers were given for Islam and the pilgrims. Islam's quartet gave many pleasing vocal selections, one of which was entitled "We Are the Merry Shriners!" The supper room was thrown open and refreshments served, which brought to a close an exceedingly enjoyable evening. Every one was made to feel at home.

Wednesday, August 6, the bugle call was early. We put in a full day gloriously, and such a jolly party—over 400 Shriners and ladies. All assembled at the Narrow Gauge ferry, foot of Market Street, crossed over to Oakland, where a special train of eleven coaches was in waiting to convey us through a country delightful in scenery and climate, with orchards loaded down with luscious fruits and vines prolific with grapes of the finest qualities. At the beautiful town of San José our train was halted to permit of resident Shriners and ladies joining. They came with immense boxes of bouquets of fragrant blossoms, which were distributed to all. Nothing was lacking to satisfy the wish of the most fastidious—an endless supply of native fruits, and liquids constantly on tap. The "love cup" was kept on the move from one end of the train to the other ; music, singing and general jollification caused the time to pass very rapidly. Our destination was the "Big Tree Grove," where Islam had a novel surprise for us. The great forest of big redwood trees had been turned into a huge banquet hall for our special benefit. Stretched across the entrance to the grove we were greeted with a massive sign, "Welcome, Mecca Pilgrims." Entering the grove every one is struck with the immensity of these monsters of the forest. Some idea of their size can be formed when it is known that it took fifteen pilgrims, with arms and hands extended, and each touching fingers, to "circumference" the giant. Close by is the one the trunk of which served as an abode for the lately deceased Gen. Fremont. Our people stood amazed at these wonders, many of them three hundred feet in height.

Our Islam hosts were evidently bent upon fastening upon the tablets of our memories everything that would tend to cause pleasant and lasting reminders of our visit. Here they had arranged (to us) a brand-new novelty—a bull's head breakfast. That our friends at home may get an idea

of what it was, we liken it unto a huge clambake, substituting bulls' heads for the clams. This affair was not alone a bake, but a barbecue as well. A great trench had been dug, arranged with stones. Into this inclosed pit had been placed and baked over night twenty bulls' heads done up in gunny cloth, four sacks each of corn in the ear, potatoes, and a hundred pounds of sea bass ; four quarters of beef and two sheep barbecued upon a gridiron of railroad iron over an open pit. This formed the substantial portion of the repast. Added to this the extensive tables spread through the grove, overlooking the San Lorenzo River, were weighted down with large dishes of lobster and chicken salads, fruits, all kinds of native wines. Everybody being seated, the roasted and baked meats were at once uncovered from the pits, and a corps of attentive waiters laid the juicy viands before our curious eyes. None of our party had ever indulged their appetites in such a repast. Half a dozen experts were kept busy stripping the covering from the head, carving the jowls, separating the jaws, cutting up and serving the sweet, juicy tongues, etc. It was our maiden bull's head feed, and was greatly enjoyed. Jaws and teeth were carried away as souvenirs by many of the pilgrims.

An impromptu musical entertainment was given. Miss Pearl Noble played several pleasing solos upon the cornet. Solo, duet, and quartet singing of happy old-time melodies, and humorous speeches by that unapproachable old veteran, George T. Bromley, greatly enhanced the day's pleasures.

Just prior to boarding our train for Santa Cruz, a photographer took several pictures of the large group upon the steps leading up to the depot platform.

At 1.30 P.M., the party entered the train, which proceeded to Santa Cruz, where a dip in the Pacific Ocean was greatly appreciated. This was followed by a ride about this beautiful town, as well as a visit to the military camp.

At 4.15 P.M., we started on the return to San Francisco, where we arrived at eight o'clock. The pleasurable excitement was kept up on the return equal with the morning ride. There was no lagging.

After supper parties were made up for the Chinese theatre. There the play is anywhere from six months to six years. They commence this afternoon where they left off at midnight yesterday. George W. Millar, Capt. Joe and Doc. Ellison seemed stuck upon these shows—whether it was the wild, noisy, weird music, the elegantly embroidered dresses, the odors, the almond eyed beauties smoking cigarettes in the gallery, or the superior (?) acting caught their eye and taste, this deponent saith not ; but we would not be at all surprised to hear of their chartering Scottish Rite Hall and producing a Chinese play, with real live Chinamen to do the acting, the trio

to do the cymbals and drum, or substitute Thad Beecher, who proved that he could perform upon all at one and the same time. The "loudness" of the air is the more appreciable to the *ear Chinee.*

Our fourth day in 'Frisco was arranged by our hosts, who acted as escorts, for a carriage drive throughout the city. All the principal thoroughfares were inspected, and every business building and dwelling of prominence pointed out. The elegant mansions of the Crockers, Flood, Huntington and others were shown. The drive was taken through Golden Gate Park, with its abundance of flowers and its immense conservatories. The Presidio was visited, and this military reservation thoroughly inspected, proceeding to Fort Point, thence to the Cliff House, on the Pacific Coast. Here considerable time was indulged in watching the sportive seals upon the rocks from the balcony of this now well-known resort. Upon the return, stops were made at various places of interest.

One of the 'Friscoites, who was especially attentive to the pilgrims, was the General Agent of the Burlington route, Mr. W. D. Sanborn. His guests, for an outing in his elegant four-in-hand, were : Nobles Geo. W. Millar, Dr. J. H. Downes, James McGee, Dr. S. R. Ellison, Ed. L. Munn, Clark W. Parker and wife, Joseph B. Eakins, Robert M. Taggart, George Watkins, and Mrs. and the Misses Coghlan, of Sacramento.

For the evening's enjoyment, Islam's committee had secured the entire seating capacity of the California Theatre, for an immense Shrine theatre party. Nobles appeared in full evening dress, with fez and jewel, accompanied by their ladies. The house, when all were seated, presented a beautiful sight. The play was the "City Directory," an amusing and enjoyable mass of comic situations, with a first-class company, the same that had appeared at Ill. Noble J. Wesley Rosenquest's Bijou Theatre in New York. At the conclusion of the performance Nobles and ladies repaired to Islam's quarters, where a fine banquet was served, and an hour passed away with singing and addresses.

The drive through the city of Oakland on Friday, August 8th, was one of the pleasantest of the trip. Everybody turned out to do the pilgrims honor. It was open house, and all latch-strings were on the outside, so many of Islam's membership residing in the city that it seemed like a friendly call. Arms were outstretched, and you were compelled to enter their tents, rest, and refresh. All returned to the hotel, heartily appreciating their day spent in the "City of the Oaks."

Saturday, August 9, ushered in another gala day. We have been exceedingly fortunate thus far in being favored with fine weather ever since we left the Metropolitan city. We read in the daily press accounts of the weather in and about New York City, wherein it is stated that the thermometer is about an even hundred, with lots of sunstrokes, or else the

other extreme of heavy rainfalls. We have been very comfortable with medium heavy underclothing, and have not yet seen a drop of rain. To-day it is beautiful, the water smooth, and the air soft and balmy, and we have had one of the most delightful of excursions on the steamer "Bay City," which had been chartered by Islam's Nobles for this purpose. There were about four hundred in the party. Islam's Nobles and their ladies interspersed themselves with Mecca pilgrims and pilgrimesses, and made the trip exceedingly pleasant and sociable. The start was made about 10 o'clock. The First Infantry Regiment N. G. C. band accompanied the party. The steamer was tastefully decorated with bunting, Mecca's and Islam's flags being promiscuously placed fore and aft. Noble T. H. Goodman, Chairman of Committee on Transportation, assisted by Nobles Charles L. Field, Dr. C. G. Kenyon, Wm. T. Fitzgerald, T. J. Bass, Frank M. Cartan, George T. Bromley, L. Osborn, John H. Gray, H. T. Graves, and C. Patton, were assiduously at work looking after the pilgrims. Islam's ladies constituted themselves a committee, and made all the female pilgrims feel at home. We sailed up the Bay to the Iron Works, running along in sight of the residences on Mission Hill. After passing Mission Rock we moved slowly by and close up to the new cruiser "San Francisco." Cheers exchanged from on board both vessels, and whistle salutes. The band played the "Red, White, and Blue," and Miss Pearl Noble gave a cornet solo. Our steamer now headed for the Union Iron Works. Here a short stop was made to inspect the works and the new harbor defense vessel, "Monterey," in course of erection. On leaving the works we headed for Hunter's Point. Upon either side of the lower deck long tables had been arranged, upon which were sandwiches, cakes, and fruits of all kinds in great profusion. On the other side were three kinds of punches, champagnes, etc. The tables were raided, the stock was never allowed to run out, but was constantly replenished, and all without money and without price.

We run along to Alcatraz and Tiburon, through Raccoon Straits, and up to Red Rock, in full view of the Golden Gate. Singing, dancing, and speechmaking were freely indulged in.

On the homeward trip Mecca's O. G. Pilgrims obtained possession of the lower cabin, and kept open house until the arrival of the steamer at her dock. They entertained the "four hundred" in a style familiar to many at home. It was similar to the entertainment at Scottish Rite Hall, April 1st (ladies' night). Those present and participating on that occasion will fully appreciate the fun that would naturally prevail under similar circumstances. They all bit and were sold by the dozen; Nobles and ladies alike partook, and heartily enjoyed and relished, not the eatables and drinkables, but the jokes perpetrated. Their great desire to know how

to keep punch hot with large cakes of (glass) ice immersed, and to preserve samples of the cork, veneered chocolate caramels, sawdust biscuits, Limburger mottoes, leads us to believe that they are apt scholars and intent upon getting square with the (Pacific) world at large at no distant day. They were worked in sections of twelve, who after indulging were sworn to secrecy. Reaching the deck they immediately set about getting square, by communicating to the uninitiated the excellence of the spread, and creating a desire to get there with the next dozen.

Saturday evening was set apart for an exclusive. Shriners only—high jinks. The ladies being cared for by the Islam ladies—at the hotel and their private residences. At 8 P.M. Islam Temple in full force, with evening dress, fez and claws, accompanied by a band, arrived at the Palace Hotel. All the pilgrim Nobles, likewise attired in evening dress and fez, fell in line, four abreast, presenting a fine appearance, marched to Islam's headquarters, where preparations had been made for a *huge time.* Hot sands, Zemzem waters, luscious fruits, figs, grapes, dates and manna. It was to be—and was—an informal social gathering of Shriners from the East and West, and the evening was one of pleasure and hospitality. The youth and aged of Islam vied with each other in their desire to entertain and prove that Islam's "Love Cup" was always full, and salt and bread ever ready for the tired pilgrims. After the substantials had been partaken of, the cork-popping began and was kept up continuously. Potentate Charles L. Field, as toast master, was a success. Short speeches, humorous stories, social converse, revelry and music consumed the hours until midnight. Nobles F. H. Day, John H. Gray, H. T. Graves, George T. Bromley, Cartan, Price, Edwards, and others of Islam, and George W. Millar, Thad. Beecher, Capt. Joe, James McGee, Geo. Watkins, H. L. Turner, John H. Witbeck, and Alfred Taylor, of the pilgrim Nobles, were the individuals called upon for short talks and stories. Noble H. T. Graves composed and sang, set to the music of an old-time melody, a song commemorative of the Mecca Pilgrimage to the Golden Gate. We have upon occasions East seen staggering results from considerably less than half the quantity of fluids punished. Whether it is caused by the climate, or because of the air being so light, we know not. No "think of your head in the morning" advice necessary or recourse to shoe horns to aid in tiling your head. This city is a bad place for the Prohibition party to seek horrible examples. During our perambulations, covering a full week, with the many barrooms in full blast at all hours, we failed to witness an individual under the influence of the cup that cheers and inebriates.

We have spent many pleasant moments since we wandered from our home in the East, but our Saturday Zemzem evening with Islam Nobles

must be accorded the palm. It was one continuous round of pleasure from the opening to the moment they bid us good night after escorting us to our hotel.

The following day (Sunday, August 10) our party arose early and scattered as tastes dictated. Those religiously inclined attended service among the various churches. Many accepted invitations and dined with Islam's Nobles at their respective residences, or visited the park, Presidio, cemeteries, the museum of the California State Mining Bureau, which was opened expressly for the pilgrims, or indulged in rides upon the cable cars, etc., returning in the evening, where later on the pilgrims were busily occupied in trunk packing, preparatory to our early start in the morning.

At 8.30 A.M., Monday, August 11, everything being in readiness, trunks and grips packed, all boarded the coaches in waiting, under escort of Islam Nobles, who were on hand early. With cheers and a unanimous vote of thanks to the Palace Hotel managers for kind and excellent treatment received during our stay, we started for the Oakland Ferry.

The ride across the bay was a pleasant one. Upon the boat, interspersed with Islam Nobles, recollections were recalled of the happy and glorious good times of the week past. Our people were prolific in their praises of the boundless hospitality shown by our Islam hosts. The fun at Santa Cruz bull's head breakfast, the bay excursion, with Mecca's jokeful banquet, etc. The unanimous verdict of Mecca's pilgrims was that their visit to San Francisco had been one of the grandest and most hospitable welcomes ever enjoyed by a company of travelers in the United States. Whilst California Shriners are noted entertainers, yet not half the kind treatment, courtesies, time and attention accorded us could have been expected. Just recollect, for one moment, these noble people sacrificed a full week of their valuable time to our entertainment, pleasure and comfort; therefore, no words of gratitude were strong enough for the pilgrims to use under the circumstances.

Arriving at Oakland, we boarded our cars. Islam Nobles had been there with supplies of fruits, etc. To commemorate the pilgrimage, Nobles James McGee, Geo. W. Millar and Joseph B. Eakins, on behalf of Mecca Temple, presented to Islam Temple, through Potentate Charles L. Field, the beautiful silken Mecca banner. Noble Charley accepted in a neat speech—corks popped—and all drank to Islam's and Mecca's success. The announcement, "All aboard!" went forth; with parting handshakes, and cheers and tigers for both Islam and Mecca pilgrims, our caravan moved Eastward, ho! a number of Islam's Nobles accompanying us as far as Sacramento, where we made a short halt. Noble W. T. Fitzgerald, passenger agent of the Southern Pacific Railroad, was again detailed to look after our comfort and welfare until we pass beyond the lines of his company.

At Sacramento Islam's escort bid us adieu with loud and many cheers. Our associations had been so pleasant all were exceedingly loath to part.

We journeyed through a delightful country, varying, novel, and grand in scenery, borne along the mountain sides, upon the edge of precipices rising several thousand feet. Still higher we go, until we reach Summit, the highest point on the Sierras, seven thousand and forty-two feet above the sea level.

Many of the stations we are leaving behind are reminders of eventful gold seeking times—such as Clipper Gap, Gold Run, Dutch Flat, Emigrant Gap, etc.

At Summit our progress was temporarily impeded by reason of a large boulder falling through a snow-shed across the track, necessitating blasting. As this delay was during the night we were not seriously inconvenienced.

From Summit eastward we gradually descend, and view every variety of mountain scenery, chasms, cañons, peaks, pines, creeks, rivers, cascades, gorges, etc. Through the eastern portion of the State of California, with its many evidences of mining in sight, huge smelting furnaces, quartz mills, old placer diggings, long flumes which carry off the wash gravel, retaining the gold. We leave California and pass through the State of Nevada, and finally arrive, bright and early the morning of August 13, in the city of Ogden, Utah Territory, the end of the Central Pacific Division of the Southern Pacific Railroad. We found this city supplied with all the modern conveniences, electric lights, railroads, etc. Our stay here was short—sufficient to do the necessary switching of our special train to the tracks of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, called the Scenic Route.

Awaiting the arrival of our train were Noble Oliver, of El Jebel Temple, Denver, Passenger Agent of the D. & R. G. R. R., and a delegation from Al Kalah Temple of Salt Lake City, consisting of Nobles N. Treweek, F. M. Bishop, David Paul, Samuel C. Ewing, J. L. Denham, Julius Ganey, Judges Colborn, Hiller, Clute, and Ingram; they had remained at Ogden over night. They accompanied us into their city, and arranged and engineered one of the grandest day's pleasures of the pilgrimage.

A half-past seven A.M. we arrived in Salt Lake City. There we found our Noble hosts had anticipated our arrival by having in readiness the Liberal Military Band and a large number of carriages and the largest and handsomest tally-ho—we believe in the world—for its many cross seats within and on top have a capacity for comfortably seating fifty people. The band greeted us with inspiring music. We were given a ride over the city, which less than fifty years ago was nothing but a mass of sage brush, now a full blooming city of 50,000 inhabitants, 100 miles of straight streets, 132 feet wide, lined with elm, locust, and other fine trees. Fine residences,

with each its garden, its fruit and shade trees, and beautiful green lawns, every design of modern architecture greet the eye. The city is protected upon three sides by lofty mountains. There are three Masonic lodges here. The people are possessed of an undying faith in their city, it being the only one between Denver and the sea, a distance of 1,500 miles. There was not a pointer we did not get of its good qualities before we were an hour in it. "It is the oldest, largest and wealthiest in the Territory; healthiest in the world; nobody ever dies here." They have the three essentials for a residence, pure air, good water, and salubrious climate, the fairest skies, pure mountain air, which belongs to an altitude of 4,354 feet—uncontaminated by contact with vapors from miasmatic swamps and pools. They have no fierce or turbulent storms—but long summer days, sunsets of splendor. In half an hour you can enjoy the congenial sensation of a bath in that strangely healthful inland sea, Salt Lake, whose marvelous water infuses vigor, manhood and youth to age.

You can have choice of churches. Every denomination is here represented by one or more churches. Most every one owns his or her own home.

The Mormon Temple, begun in 1853, is still building, and will take several years to complete, costing upward of $3,000,000, entirely of granite from the Wasatch Mountains. It is 186 feet long, 99 feet wide, 100 feet high, exclusive of towers, which are 220 feet. The walls are 10 feet wide at the base and 5 feet at top. It can be seen for twenty miles. There is not one dollar of debt upon it.

The Tabernacle, which is used as the general Assembly Hall of the Mormons, is built in the form of an ellipse. The domelike roof is also ellipsoid. It is 250 feet long, 150 feet wide, and 80 feet high. The roof is supported only at the spring of the arch. It therefore forms one of the largest of arches. Its acoustic qualities are perfection. A pin dropped in the pulpit can be readily heard at the other end of the gallery. The building seats 8,000, is heated by steam and lighted by gas. The organ is one of the largest in the country, and was manufactured by themselves, 48 feet high, 33 feet wide, 57 stops, 2,648 pipes, and cost $100,000.

In the rear is the now unused Endowment house, where marriages were wont to be celebrated. The whole block is inclosed by a twelve foot high cement wall. Close by is the office of *Desert News*, printed on Utah paper, with Utah type; the tithing yard, where tithes were paid and the new converts are collected; the Lion House, the Church headquarters; the Beehive House, Brigham Young's residence, now used as a railroad office; the Historian's Office, Amelia Palace, lately the residence of the head of the Mormon Church; near by is the Eagle Gate, and back of it, upon the brow of the hill, is Brigham's grave.

All these points of interest were pointed out to our curious and inquisitive eyes. The rule of exclusion was broken over, and we were permitted to enter and inspect the Tabernacle, its history and qualities explained, and the immense organ was played for our especial benefit. The gates were unlocked, and we were permitted to view the great temple, all of which was duly appreciated.

After completely taking in the town, we were landed at the Cullen House, where a sumptuous banquet awaited our arrival, which was indulged in and heartily enjoyed by all. Champagne flowed freely. Speeches of welcome were delivered by Noble Treweek, Judge Colborn and others, followed by responses from pilgrims Millar (orator in chief), Eakins, West, Beecher and "Jeems." Our hosts determined to make the most of the limited time. We regained our coaches and were driven to the depot, where a special train was in waiting to convey our entire party to Garfield Beach, some twenty miles from the city, on the great Salt Lake (Salt Lake's Coney Island). A run of about forty minutes brought us to this delightful spot. Here we found a magnificently arranged bathing pavilion, with upwards of 300 neat dressing rooms, each supplied with fresh water shower baths to remove the saline scales when emerging from the salt dip

Our hosts had a prearranged plan with the proprietors, for Eastern wealth would not be taken here (we were since informed). The establishment is run by a Shriner. Bathing suits were provided, and, with very few exceptions, all were in the briny waters of Salt Lake, taking advantage of its hygienic benefits. But for its tendency to float the body to the surface, and the necessity of keeping it out of the nostrils and eyes, it would afford the best swimming school in the world. The pilgrims decided that either the stimulating effect of the brine upon the skin, the saline air upon the lungs, or the muscular exercise in swimming, or the combination, had added years to their existence. Upon the pavilion overlooking the lake the Liberal Military Band, which accompanied us, played pleasing music. After the bath many indulged in dancing.

At four o'clock we left the beach for the city, where carriages were in waiting, and drove us to the D. & R. G. depot, there to board our special train and go through the same reluctant ordeal of bidding adieu to kind friends who had treated us so royally. The thanks of the pilgrims were profuse for the *multum in parvo* time had at their hands. It was voted one of the pleasantest days of the trip.

Wednesday, August 13, at 5 P.M., was the hour arranged by the managers of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad to leave Salt Lake City, so that we might enjoy the grandeur and beauties of the country to be traversed by daylight of the 14th.

At that time our train pulled out of the depot, mid cheers from the Gentile Nobles of Mormondom and the Mecca pilgrims.

That we might be made conversant with the notable places along the line, and that our welfare should be cared for, the railroad company had delegated one of their most proficient and affable agents to accompany our train the entire length of their road. This individual was Noble A. N. Oliver, of El Jebel Temple of Denver.

Thursday, August 14, after breakfasting in our dining car, about 7 o'clock, we arrived at Grand Junction, where we changed to the narrow gauge Pullman sleeping coaches, the broad gauge division of the D. & R. G. R. R. not being quite completed. It was expected that we would be the initial train over their complete new broad gauge. Our special train was now returned to Ogden, thence over another road, to join us at Denver.

I won't attempt to describe in detail the grandeur of the Black Cañon of the Gunnison, with its high cliffs, projecting ledges, over which flow miniature cataracts from dizzy heights to the green waters of the river; nor the famous piece of engineering necessary to surmount the Marshall Pass, where our train (which had been divided, each section with locomotive fore and aft) made a short breathing halt nearly eleven hundred feet heavenward; nor the Royal Gorge, or Grand Cañon of the Arkansas, which is called the crowning wonder of this railroad, and is viewed from open observation cars attached to the train. All these have been so ably treated by writers of ability, that my readers have come to know them pretty thoroughly. In our party were many who have traversed the European Continent many times. This was their maiden visit to this section, and for scenic beauties they freely accord the palm to Colorado. We just managed to get through the gorge with light enough of the day left to get a good view of it.

After leaving Gunnison lunch was served upon the train by the Denver & Rio Grande R. R. Co., and at Salida we sat down and enjoyed an excellent dinner in the dining rooms of the railroad company, which are presided over by that prince of caterers, Mr. E. A. Thayer, who had prepared a special *menu* of all the delicacies, green turtle, trout, spring chicken, snipe, frogs' legs, etc. The *menu* card was deemed a Shrine trophy, and carried off as a souvenir. A washout prevented our progress beyond Pueblo until—

Friday Morning, August 15.—Our people rambled through the quaint old city, now full of modern progress, until ordered aboard train for Denver. As the washout had been so severe in many places that it was impossible to go at full speed, we witnessed many evidences of what they have to endure in this section at certain seasons of the year—wrecks of engines and cars, this

time resulting in no loss of life. The washouts were so bad in the neighborhood of Colorado Springs and Manitou that we were compelled to forego our visit to the latter place and the Garden of the Gods, much to our regret. We had the pleasure of gazing at Pike's Peak, however.

At Colorado Springs, where we dined, our party was increased by the addition of a large delegation of Shriners of El Jebel Temple, of Denver, who had come to meet us the day before and remained over night.

The run to Denver is but a couple of hours. The scenery is as beautiful as any seen along the line. The many castle-shaped rocks here and there displayed in broad, arable fields give the appearance of ancient historic domains.

At Denver we met the same fate as in all preceding described cities. El Jebel had her scouts out, prominent among whom were the indefatigable Noble, A. B. McGaffey, and his cohorts, Frank J. Hard (the irrepressible Frank), Eben E. Cobb, Dr. E. A. Collins, E. F. Arthur, Paul B. Gaylord, W. D. Smith, William E. Barton, and not forgetting zealous and earnest William H. Gillen, of Mecca, who is now no longer a tenderfoot in this region, but a full fledged Denverian, come to stay. William was as happy as a clam at high water at meeting so many of his own people. All hands were just as glad to meet him, for he's a jolly good fellow, is Bill, and did his best with the Denver boys to entertain us.

Saturday, August 16, we put in solidly in inspecting every hole and corner of this enterprising city under the efficient guidance of the enthusiastic Denver Nobles. Enthusiastic is hardly strong enough, but it's the best at our command. However, to draw it mild, they have a city they may well feel proud of. They can't seem to get buildings up fast enough; they are engaged before the plaster is on the walls. We were asked if we had seen any bills "To Let" upon buildings or stores, and we were forced to acknowledge in the negative. The ground brings fabulous prices. I think Noble Frank Hard told us, if our memory serves us aright, $1,000,000 per foot (we know not if he refers to the World's Fair city foot), and cheap at that.

Carriages, with a Denver Noble in each, were in readiness, and drove us all through the city, and finally to Masonic Hall, where a magnificent banquet awaited us. Fully 300 Nobles and ladies sat down, previous to which Noble J. S. Mundy, of Mecca, asked a blessing. Addresses and receptions became the order, and Denver put forth her best, and the pilgrims followed suit. The ride was again taken up and finished. A reception was held in the hall in the evening, and dancing made the hours pass quickly until the announcement was made that our train was in readiness to bear us eastward. The pilgrims reluctantly separated from their Denver-made acquaintances.



VIEWS FROM THE ARCHIVIST'S SALON.

At Denver we rejoined our own special train. Steward, conductor, and all hands were joyful at again meeting. Our beds being in readiness, all retired. We now journeyed over the Burlington and Missouri railroad, which carried us through the thrifty State of Nebraska.

Sunday, August 17, at Hastings, a committee from Sesostris Temple, of Lincoln, boarded our train with a kind invitation to halt, view their beautiful city, and accept their hospitality. A run of three hours brings us to this, the second largest city in this grain growing State. Anticipating our arrival, in front of the depot was one mass of carriages. All the people were anxious to do us honor, and had placed their private equipages at our disposal, and a three and a half hours' ride through the city and suburbs showed the pilgrims what wonders can be wrought in a few years—a full blown city of 35,000 inhabitants in what was but a short time since a sunflower prairie. As the day was drawing to a close, and we had promised to make a short stop at Omaha, we were compelled to part, previous to which our Lincoln Nobles presented each pilgrim with an appropriate gold-plated badge, emblematical of their State and the order. It was a crescent, scimitar and star, formed from sheaves of wheat, an ear of corn and a sunflower, the latter representing the suspended star—the whole surmounted by a green grasshopper. Nobles Garten, Everett, Glenn and Turner, and many others whose names we failed to remember, were assiduous in their endeavors to entertain and care for the pilgrims.

Upon entering our train we found a committee from Tangier Temple of Omaha awaiting us, consisting of L. H. Korty, N. B. Apple, James S. France, Martin Meyer, W. J. Mount, Jeff. W. Bedford, C. Hartman, Richard Smith, Wm. F. Bechel and T. C. Brunner, as an advance guard, bent upon halting us at their oasis. They had strict orders not to allow us to cross the river without stopping at their city. We saw no way out of it, and therefore readily acquiesced. The lateness of the hour—8.30 P.M.—prevented our enjoying the grand programme they had mapped out for our pleasure in this fine city, which some of our party style "New York number two." From what we could see at the hour we entered, it impressed us that way. From the preparations we saw and participated in we could readily judge what was in store for us had we reached their city at a more seasonable hour. Their ladies and Nobles had been waiting in their hall from two o'clock in the afternoon. Carriages held at the depot for us were soon filled and driven to their hall, which we entered and were made to feel at home at once *sans cérémonie.* The ladies intermingled with the pilgrim ladies at once, and pleasant conversation ruled. The hall was one mass of bunting, festooned from the ceiling, and about the large room were tastefully arranged beautiful living plants. Running the full length of the room was a large table loaded with delicacies, champagne, punches, etc.,

and about the hall was an abundance more to replenish the stock. Ill. Noble Gus. Anderson, Potentate of Tangier, called to order, and introduced one of Omaha's most eloquent Judges, who graciously and courteously welcomed the pilgrims to their city, and presented a beautifully polished buffalo horn, inscribed "To Mecca from Tangier," filled with corn, following it up with a huge golden key, giving the freedom of the city. These were received on behalf of Mecca by your humble servant, with the best language at his command, and will be assigned a conspicuous space among the treasures at Scottish Rite Hall. Each lady pilgrim was made the recipient of an elegantly polished ox horn, with silk ribbons attached, to enable them to be carried across the shoulders. Each horn contained a neat silken plush bag filled with confectionery. Upon the horn was inscribed the word "Omaha." It made rather a novel sight as each lady retired carrying her horn of plenty strapped across her shoulder. Midst many regrets at our short stay we again entered the carriages and were driven to our train. These halts, although brief, will have treasured spots in each pilgrim's memory.

We now journey on the west bank of the Missouri River, and cross to Pacific Junction, where we are transferred to the tracks of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad. At Burlington we cross the Father of Waters, the Mississippi, and are in the great State of Illinois about noon.

Monday, August 18, we arrive in the city of Chicago some few hours behind our anticipated time of arrival. There we were met by those indefatigable Shrine workers and O. G., Nobles John May, William Stiles, James H. Thompson, Ed. Hughes and W. Russell, and our stay made pleasant. The shifting to the Grand Trunk tracks, cleaning, watering and provendering of the train being completed, we said adieu to the "Windy City" and faced homeward about 3 P.M. Our party now began to lessen as we neared our terminus, many leaving at points near their homes, others to add to their vacation at given points.

Tuesday morning, August 19, we arrived at Niagara Falls. A short time was allotted to view this wonder, many of the party having been there before. After leaving the Falls and journeying homeward through New York State, we experienced the first rain of the trip, and it came down heavily. At Buffalo we met a slight delay, and finally left one of our cars behind. Running along with nothing serious to mar our trip, we arrived at Weehawken some three hours behind our scheduled time, which was pretty close for a thirty day trip, and which partook of so many pleasant halts by the wayside.

Thus closed what is conceded by all, and vouched for by those who have the knowledge, the grandest pilgrimage that ever crossed the continent.

"Roll, Jordan, roll!" "JEEMS.'

1891.—April 26, Bridgeport and New Haven.—As guests of Pyramid Temple some 200 Nobles of Mecca Temple in special train left the Grand Central Depot at 11 A.M. in full dress, fez and white gloves. Refreshments were served by Noble Samuel Terhune on train. At Bridgeport all alighted, and a glass of rush-in-take-and-git-champagne-punch was indulged at the Atlantic Hotel, presided over by one of Pyramid's Nobles. After a parade with Pyramid's Nobles through the principal thoroughfares all re-embarked, and the train sped on to the City of New Haven. Here the party was re-enforced by the resident members of Pyramid. The entire number, now reaching in the neighborhood of 1,000 Nobles, with military band in full dress, fez and claws, presenting a sight never to be forgotten, made a parade through this Yale city. The college boys were out and took it in, in some instances fezes and all. A working session in the Athenæum was held at 3.30 P.M., and upward of a hundred candidates were initiated, some of whom belonged to Mecca, having made the pilgrimage for the purpose of initiation. At the conclusion of the ceremony a banquet was served, to which all sat down and enjoyed, even to the *chicken pie*, ample time being allowed for exchanging of courtesies with Nobles of different localities. In the evening the entire party with ladies attended a grand theatre party, witnessing Nobles Gus Williams and John T. Kelly (of Mecca Temple) in their latest success, "U and I." At 12 P.M. the special train with the visiting contingent wended its way westward, Mecca's Nobles reaching home early the following morning.

1891.—May 29, Brooklyn.—This pilgrimage is fresh in the memory of the oldest resident. Mecca accepted the invite as follows: "Resolved, That Mecca Temple cordially accept the invitation of Kismet Temple to visit them at their next session, which will be held on Friday evening, May 29, 1891, in Aurora Grata Cathedral, corner Bedford Avenue and Madison Street, Brooklyn." In accordance with the foregoing, about five hundred Nobles of Mecca assembled at ferry foot of East Twenty-third Street, crossed over and were met by Kismet's Nobles, with band of music and fireworks. The line of march up Bedford Avenue was kept illuminated with colored fires, Roman candles, rockets and bombs. They were bound to make a night of it, and they did. Aurora Grata Club House was thrown open, and supplies never ran short. After formal address of welcome and introductions by Kismet's Potentate, Ill. Noble Wayland Trask, the order was conferred and balance of evening devoted to exchanging of courtesies. The festivities lasted well into the succeeding day (Decoration Day); being a holiday, all hands had an opportunity to rest their weary soles and *heads as well.*

1891.—June 8–10, Niagara Falls.—In conjunction with Kismet Temple of Brooklyn, some thirty of Mecca Nobles and ladies made the pilgrimage

to Niagara Falls, where the Imperial Council of the Order was to hold its annual session, leaving New York via the Erie Railroad in special cars. In the party were Nobles Geo. W. Millar, Joseph B. Eakins, S. R. Ellison, M.D., James McGee (and daughter, Miss Edith), and T. H. Roxbury.

1891.—September 24, Asbury Park.—Mecca made a pilgrimage and held a special session at Educational Hall, Asbury, N. J. A large number of her members are residents there and at adjacent towns of Long Branch, Red Bank, etc. They met the special train of six cars, with the Monmouth Cornet Brass Band, who were rigged out in Arab attire, and made a parade through the town. Many of the party accepted a kind proffer of use of bath houses and took a dip in the Atlantic. A large number of candidates were initiated, the costumes and paraphernalia with Noble Tom Leigh having been sent ahead, and everything was so arranged that the ceremony proceeded as smooth as though at Scottish Rite Hall. The banquet was served at the Victoria Hotel.

1892.—January 16–26.—Midwinter pilgrimage to Washington, Alexandria, Manassas, Danville, Va., Atlanta, Ga., Jacksonville, St. Augustine, Palatka, Ormond, and Ocala, Fla., Savannah, Ga., Charleston, S. C., and Richmond, Va. One of the pleasantest of ten day outings that Mecca Temple pilgrims ever indulged in all the jaunts taken was the above. It was full of interest from start to finish. They visited country, although all our own, that was new to them, got an insight into Southern ways, found big and willing hearts and open arms to receive and bid them welcome, and saw the little pickaninnies on their native heath. We left New York *via* Pennsylvania Railroad, in a magnificent special train of Pullman's best vestibuled sleeping coaches and dining and baggage cars. Meals and service were the best.

Our party was made up of the following gentlemen and ladies: Mr. and Mrs. George W. Millar and daughter, Miss Julia Shandley, Mr. and Mrs. James McGee, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Barr, Miss Annie Van Doren, Jarvis B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Cowen, John M. Jones, John A. Totten, Mr. and Mrs. William C. Locherty, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jolly, Mrs. Marks, Joseph E. Miller, Charles A. Benedict, S. R. Ellison, M.D., J. H. Downes, D.D.S., Henry Kolb, M.D., J. A. Roth, M.D., Charles F. Booth, M.D., W. Eisner, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kosmak, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Bresnan, Adrian Futterer, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Van Houten, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Piaget, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Piaget, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Van Emberg and Louis F. Braun, Gen. R. A. Donnelly, William Frisbee, Orland Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Thad. B. Beecher, C. T. Beardsley, H. A. Rand, C. W. Clark, Henry Setzer, Jr., E. S. Sumner and Mr. and Mrs. Zalmon Goodsell, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. H. Bernd and two daughters, David B. Alling, Robert Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. E. M.

Armstrong and Master Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. David H. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Wait, W. B. Morgan, H. E. Patten, J. F. Axtelle, M.D., Alfred T. Ricker, Miss E. Easton, Mr. and Mrs. John N. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Abbe, E. S. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Whiting, John E. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Bissinger, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Crater, John P. Contrell, Mrs. B. Scott, Hon. George West, William Helmer, George Weller, H. G. Wolcott, Ed. N. Little and daughters, Misses Laura and Florence, and Aaron Leavett.

All having been previously assigned to their respective berths and sections, with many Godspeeds and good wishes from the legion of friends who had filled the depot to "see us off," our elegant Pullman vestibuled train pulled out of the Pennsylvania Depot, southbound. Owing to the fact that about a fourth of the party had been together upon the memorable California pilgrimage, and the balance pretty well acquainted, many introductions were unnecessary. In less than twenty-four hours the entire party were as one family; visiting from car to car was the order.

The first night on the road the majority retired early. The Indians (Nobles Kolb, Roth, Booth, Ellison, Axtelle—all M.Ds.—Eisner, Jones, Leavett, Benedict, Miller, Rand, Wolcott, Downes, Frisbee, Smith, Beecher, Futterer and West, Governor as he was styled by the gang) repaired to the dining car, and there held a powwow. The medicine men prescribed "Quarts, Mumm, freely," and for several hours Steward Erhardt was kept busy delivering prescriptions, which brought about pleasing results. All were in good humor, some excellent singing from Bridgeport's sweet tenor, Rand, and the Indian Quartet, Roth, Booth, Kolb and Leavett, gave some old-time jubilee melodies. Charley Benedict was irreproachable in his song and chorus, "Forty Dollar Razor." This dining car proved quite a trysting place between meals, and in the evening, after dinner, here the clans gathered and many an enjoyable evening was spent.

Sunday, January 17, nothing of moment occurred. We were passing through a country which has memories of trying times during the late unpleasantness, Alexandria, Manassas, Lynchburg, Charlotteville, Danville, etc. At the latter city our train was halted to change engines, and sufficient time was allowed to permit all hands to take a walk or electric road ride through the old city, the greatest tobacco centre in the world. The city had on its Sunday garb—quiet. The houses, business places, darkies, and all, to our pilgrims, were rather quaint and odd. To the majority it was their first visit South, and they took in everything. We had snow to the right and left of us all the way down to within a few hours of Atlanta. The trees presented a beautiful sight. The weather was delightful, the atmosphere clear.

Monday, January 18, about four A.M., we arrived in the metropolitan city of the South—Atlanta. After breakfast in our dining car, we were waited upon by a large delegation of Yaraab's Nobles, headed by Potentate H. C. Stockdell, a big, jolly, good-natured Yaarab Arab, accompanied by another of the same calibre, Noble James H. Thompson, Past Potentate of Medinah Temple, of Chicago, who is well known to many of Mecca's Nobles, and who is at present located in this city in the interest of the Columbia Transit Co., an adjunct to the Windy City's World s Fair. Noble Jim is pretty well thought of in this city, and business is prospering greatly with him, he being a hustler from way back. Another who is deserving of special mention is Noble Shannon, of Yaraab, who came 150 miles up the country to help welcome and entertain Mecca's pilgrims.

We had been told before starting that a royal Southern welcome awaited us. We here realized it in earnest. The committee had met at Noble Stockdell's office, and swooped down upon us with open arms, bidding us welcome to the Gate City of the South. Our breasts were bedecked with badges bearing a lifelike portrait of Yaraab's Potentate astride a camel, printed upon cotton cloth, manufactured in the city of Atlanta and grown within the corporate limits, inscribed "Mecca—Yaraab, June 18, 1892." This souvenir represents one of the many industries of Atlanta.

Great preparations had been made for our entertainment here. The threatening outlook somewhat changed the programme. A number of electric cars were brought into service, and our people, under escort of Yaraab's Nobles, were drawn about the city and far out into the suburbs, to the battlefields made famous by the late General Sherman. An excellent view of this thrifty city was had, and of its magnificent and massive buildings. The people here seemed to be imbued with a go-ahead spirit. There are evidently no drones in Atlanta's hive. Our people were impressed with the place as a pushing, live city. There is a vast amount of Northern capital well invested here. After thoroughly inspecting the city we were conducted to the Kimball House, where an excellent dinner was served.

Previous to the informal reception at Yaraab's headquarters, considerable humor was indulged in by Mecca's Indians and others gathering three or four hundred young darkies about the street fronting the hotel, and causing a scramble for coins thrown to them. Two immense camels, one with blanket, inscribed "Yaraab," the other "Mecca," were drawn up opposite the hotel to take part in the parade, which the threatening weather prevented.

In the parlor of the Kimball the lady relatives of Yaraab had assembled. Introductions took place, which greatly aided in making the

time pass pleasantly. Souvenirs of growing stalks of cotton were presented to each individual. The Capitol was visited and inspected, an audience had with Gov. Northen, to whom each of the party was formally introduced, as well as to the jolly, good-natured State Treasurer. The Episcopal church close by, presided over by an enthusiastic Rev. Noble from Kansas, was also visited.

At 5.30 P.M. the reception took place in the Masonic Hall. There formality was thrown aside, and a good time right royally enjoyed, the Atlanta ladies taking a hand in entertaining their Northern visitors. The hall was tastefully decorated with palms and flowers. The Fourth Artillery Band discoursed sweet music. Potentate Stockdell delivered the speech of welcome, closing with the words that "Atlanta had many good things, but none too good for a guest within her gates." Nobles McGee and Benedict on behalf of Mecca responded. Dancing followed, succeeded by a sumptuous banquet of Atlanta's delicacies. Claret punch for the ladies and Artillery punch for the Arabs were freely dispensed; but memories of Brooklyn made our male contingent rather cautious; they knew its stealing effects, and like the burnt child they dreaded the fire.

Our limited time in the evening prevented our accepting the kind invitation to attend performance at theatre, our red fez being all the ticket required. Yaraab's Nobles and ladies, after seeing us off, repaired to the theatre to finish the evening.

At 7 o'clock the line of march was taken up for our caravan, awaiting us at the depot, escorted by Yaraab's Nobles and ladies, among whom were Nobles H. C. Stockdell, J. E. Carlton, Shannon, Watson, Kight, J. C. Hunter, F. J. Stillson, A. G. Howard, James H. Thompson and James O. McKee of Medinah, Mrs. Charles N. Kight, Mrs. Jef. Dunwoody, and others whose names have escaped us. At 7.30, amid booming of cannon (crackers) and cheers from Yaraab and Mecca, we started on our way, heartily well pleased with our visit to Atlanta.

Our parting with Atlanta Nobles and ladies was exceedingly pleasant and happy. In the depot, while awaiting the arranging of our train and time of departure, our wild Indians were joined by Yaraab's jolly Nobles in singing old-time melodies. Floral gifts, snakes, and beetles were given as souvenirs. When Mecca's Nobles left Noble Stockdell he very much resembled a snake charmer. This was not the result of Artillery Punch. One of the souvenirs appropriated was the handsome sign upon which Nobles Doc Ellison, the Indian Medicine Men, and Charley Benedict had relied for biz. It read as follows:

"*Mecca's Hospital—Consultation at all Hours—Undertakers in the Rear Car.*"

In our haste we had nigh forgotten to mention our very pleasant visit to the Episcopal church presided over by the Rev. and Noble Julius C. Tupper. He is an enthusiastic Shriner, and received us with a kindly greeting. At the evening's reception he was formally introduced by Noble Kight's good wife, and made a very happy address. He received his Shrine degree in Kansas.

Mid adieus, handshakes, hurrahs, and the strains of "How Can I Leave Thee?" our train pulled out, and we sped on through Macon, Albany, and Waycross, the turning point south for Jacksonville. It was daylight when we reached Waycross, and a good view of the country south was had—growing cotton, pine forest trees tapped and rosin flowing, negro huts of all shapes and styles of build. Our train pulled up at a siding to await a northbound train. Directly opposite were several negro huts, in each of which were broods of little darkies, not less than a dozen in each, varying in age from six months old up, who, with their parents, occupy one room not more than ten by fifteen feet square; no windows to lighten the room and no daylight when the door is closed. The little youngsters were somewhat frightened at our approach, and quickly hustled under the solitary bed and around their mamma. No amount of persuasion could draw them out. Many dimes and nickels were tossed in by the Arabs and Arabesses. The little coons were all chubby and healthy in their close quarters.

It being a single track, we found these occasional switches to await passing northbound trains very pleasant stops by the wayside. All hands would get out of the train and take in the surroundings. At one place a double yoke of steers were attached to a two wheeled cart. In a few moments that cart was filled with human freight, and "Salt Lake," as our Utah Noble Leavett had been christened, was acting as teamster, and showing his Eastern fratres how they gee-haw out in Mormondom. As a driver he was not a success, but created lots of fun, alle samee. Another of the party, who did service in battling in days gone by, was mounted upon a small broncho, which had been tethered to a rail. There were see-saw and other childish amusements, enjoyed by old and young. All seemed to enter into the spirit of fun.

About eleven o'clock our train arrived at the city of Jacksonville. A delegation of Morocco Temple were on hand to bid us welcome, consisting of Nobles Stephens, Ely, McLean, Webster, Keene, and others. Our stop here was short, changing engines, and then continuing on to the city of St. Augustine, where we arrived shortly after noon. At the depot carriages were in waiting, and conveyed us over an elegant drive, midst palms, palmettoes, bananas, orange and lemon trees, ferns and other tropical plants, to the renowned Ponce de Leon Hotel, our home for the next four days.

Decorations in honor of our coming greeted us at the entrances. 'Welcome here," in Spanish, surmounted the word "Mecca," arranged in electric lights with varied colored globes. When the current had been turned on that evening, it was a beautiful sight.

Manager O. D. Seavey and his genial chief clerk, Mr. Gillis, were on hand, and received us right royally. Manager Seavey had scheduled a line of entertainment covering our entire stay, and it all run on time—music, fireworks, hop, decorations, etc.

We arrived just at lunch hour. All entered the elegant dining-room, with its seating capacity of five hundred. As you cross the threshold, the following verse, wrought in the mosaic pavement, greets you:

"Whoever has traveled life's dull round,
Where'er his stages may have been,
May sigh to think he still has found
The warmest welcome at an inn."

The cuisine and service were *par excellence*, and all hands resolved to give themselves no anxiety on the score of meals. After lunch all repaired to rooms, which had been assigned them in the mean time, there to prepare for the sightseeing ramble through this ancient city, abounding with quaint houses and narrow streets.

Every pilgrim was bent upon making good use of the time allotted to their stay in this section of the country. It was to be a go-as-you-please for four days. So we made up in parties of four or more, and started out for a ride, others for a walk, to view the city and its fine hotels, parks, the Old Slave Market, the barracks, where the Fifth U. S. Infantry are stationed, formerly an old Spanish convent, looking out on the water. Every afternoon a pleasant time is spent within the grounds witnessing dress parades, and listening to the barrack's military band, which not alone plays "Annie Laurie," but other familiar airs.

So much has been written about this city and its incomparable climate, that I refrain from going over that ground. Sufficient to say that during our entire stay the weather was beautiful, sometimes a little cool. We were early in the season, it really not beginning until about the middle of February.

Our first afternoon the pilgrims found plenty of interest to engage and occupy their minds. The majority of the party having visited this section for the first time, everything was new to them.

Most every one in the party was in raptures over the magnificence of the Ponce de Leon Hotel, which was completed in 1887, at a cost of over three million dollars. Considerable time was spent in rambling through its corridors, parlors, rooms, etc. I am unequal to the occasion of doing justice in describing the elegance and beauties of this building and its

beautifully laid out grounds. When I tell you that the mantel in the ladies' parlor cost about $15,000, the four massive carved wood columns in the rotunda about $20,000, the fresco work of the dining-room, etc., over $50,000, you can readily perceive that three million and more can easily be accounted for. Every room in the house is luxuriously and sumptuously furnished with the very best of furniture, carpets and draperies—nothing cheap. For the information of any of Mecca's Nobles about to take unto himself a mate, especial attention is called to the bridal chamber, with its richly upholstered suit of furniture in white, pink and golden silk, tufted, even to the bedstead and dressing case, no expense being spared; in fact, this can be safely said of the entire establishment. It only costs forty dollars per day to occupy that bridal chamber. The extensive parlors, with walls decorated with costly paintings, and the many retiring rooms, all show that the same lavish hand stinted nothing to gain the reputation of the most complete and gorgeous hotel in the world.

Gazing from the room windows upon the court below one would imagine a scene from the Arabian Nights. In the centre a large fountain is continuously playing, around about all manner of rich and rare flowers and tropical plants, tastefully arranged, some trained to grow in perfect forms of tables, sofas, chairs, etc. Upon the walls rare and odd creeping vines of moon flowers, morning glories, etc.

The building is an architectural beauty, after the Spanish moresque palaces, and has about it courts, verandas, plazas, marble mosaics, set in the midst of luxuriant orange, olive, palm, etc.

The cuisine proved in keeping with the house and could not have been improved upon. This was the unanimous and voluntary expression from all of our party, who invariably spread themselves at the dinner, appearing in full dress and fez, presenting a very creditable appearance to the stranger. We were taken for a foreign embassy, especially the table assigned and regularly occupied by our Indians. On one occasion Lord High Executioner Jones was rather dilatory in assuming his accustomed seat. By order of Khedive Roth his chair was draped in black, a card inscribed "We mourn our loss," and two empty quarts met the gaze of Jones as he entered.

The pretty illuminated menu cards, presenting a different view of the Ponce de Leon for each meal, were retained by the guests as souvenirs. Clerk Gillis informed us that last season the guests had sent through the mails upwards of 20,000 of these cards as souvenirs.

Some few years back Mecca made a memorable pilgrimage to Richmond, stopping over at Washington, to visit Almas and Acca Temples. There were two hundred and seven in the party. We stopped at Willard's Hotel during our Washington sojourn. Bickford was steward of that

hostelry. He it is who caters so finely for the Ponce de Leon. To prove that he had not forgotten our jolly party of that time, he made up an artistic piece in ice cream of an American eagle holding a small flag; surrounding the eagle were a dozen kneeling Arabs. This was sent to the O.G.'s table with his compliments. As another reminder the menus daily had reference to the pilgrims, viz. oysters à la Mecca, Pyramid punch, Mystic Shrine punch, Yaraab punch (not Artillery), Arabian ice cream.

Within a short walk is the beautiful Alcazar Hotel, with its magnificent casino and swimming pool, one of the finest in the world. This hotel, like its neighbors, the Cordova and the Ponce de Leon, the former and latter under Mr. Seavey's management, all great in size, are the property of Mr. Flagler, of Standard oil fame. Near by is the beautiful Memorial Presbyterian Church, erected by Mr. Flagler to the memory of his daughter. All these places were open to view and visited by our pilgrims.

After dinner our first day we held a sort of informal talk in the parlors to map out plans for future sightseeing. Through the assistance of Mr. Reiff, our genial and affable escort from the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., and Mr. Ackerly, General Passenger Agent of the J., St. A. & Fla. Railroad, it was finally decided that on the morrow, Wednesday, as many as desired could make an excursion down as far as Ormond, on the Halifax River. About a third of the party availed themselves of this trip, and returned amply repaid, having enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant time. The citizens at San Mateo, on arrival of the train, presented all with a liberal supply of oranges. On arriving at Ormond Mr. Anderson, of the Ormond Hotel, met the party with a large tally-ho and other conveyances, and a drive through the hammock jungles and pine forests to the hotel was very much appreciated. Here a fine lunch was served. Ormond was pretty thoroughly inspected; rambles and rides through orange groves, to the old Spanish ruins, over shell roads to the beach; a ride of several miles upon this hard, smooth sand was very much enjoyed. The tires of the wheels could not make the slightest indentation in the sand. The party returned to St. Augustine the same evening in time for dinner. Those who remained in the city found lots to occupy their time and attention. Quite a number visited Dr. Garnet's orange and tangerine grove, out on the shell road, passing out of the city through the old St. Augustine gates, erected in 1620. Half a dozen photographic fiends (friends of Doc. Ellison) would halt you here and insist upon taking you in groups fronting the gates, with old Fort Marion as a background. Like all the rest of weak humanity, we got there, and paid for the pictures in advance, and have not yet received them. Suppose they'll get here some time in the dim future. Dr. Garnet is a liberal old gent—all Mecca's party were asked to walk through the grove and eat what oranges and tangerines they desired. Some of your

readers feel as though at this moment they would like to be there, and how they would get away with the oranges on such an invite. How surprisingly few a feller can get away with when he is in the midst of them! We had a surfeit of them then, and so did all hands. Many made purchases of boxes from the Doctor, and had them placed in Mecca's baggage car to be conveyed home.

The many fancy bazaars were visited, and purchases of souvenirs, such as canes of orange wood, handles carved with alligators in ivory, etc. Small live alligators, as well as stuffed, were also in the line of purchases made. There were certainly not less than fifty young live alligators brought north by the pilgrims. We can swear to four.

Then there were those who have the souvenir spoon craze. Quite a business was done at the jewelry establishments in all the places we stopped going and returning. It being Sunday at Savannah and Charleston, and the jewelers of those cities being a God fearing people, closed stores blocked the sale.

Old Fort Marion, with its deep, dark dungeons, chapels and cells, where famous Indian warriors were confined; its dry moat; old Spanish and American cannon, distinguished by the differences in the touch hole; the Registry Book, which bears the signatures of about all of Mecca's party; and finally the affable U. S. Sergeant in charge, who can rattle off Spanish at a wonderful rate, especially when he describes to you the Coat of Arms over the entrance to the fort. A group of Mecca's old-timers visited the old Spanish Catholic churches, and Nobles and ladies tested the efficacy of the holy waters.

Strolls about the city, selecting pieces of coquina, of which the majority of the buildings are built, sailing up and down the river, and over to the lighthouse, gathering shells on the ocean beach, occupied about all the spare time at disposal.

Our people got pretty well known. Before we were a day in town they had us down as a jolly, good-natured set, as will be seen from the following paragraph which we clipped from a St. Augustine paper:

"The visiting Shriners are indeed a jolly crowd, and seem bent upon extracting from their visit all the fun possible. A party of nine 'Mystics,' composed of ladies and gentlemen, were seen yesterday morning journeying toward the Mecca, the Ponce de Leon, seated in a two wheeled cart, drawn by a serious mule, and in charge of an equally solemn donkey driver. All were in the best of spirits, and each carried a huge orange branch heavily laden with fruit. The party attracted no little attention on the street, particularly on alighting at the big hotel."

Excellent musical concerts were rendered twice daily by Prof. Brooks' orchestra: Afternoon in the loggia of the Ponce de Leon, and in the even-

ing in the Hotel rotunda. Noble G. W. Millar, in his rambles, discovered among the orchestra, in the person of the first violin, Noble H. C. Wahle, of Mecca, a retiring, modest, unassuming mortal (so unusual in Mecca's members), who was soon bedecked with our badge.

Wednesday evening, January 20th, was quite an eventful occasion for Mecca. Manager Seavey had spread himself all over with glory. He had arranged a fine display of fireworks and a hop in our honor. The fireworks closed with a massive piece made by Pain, some twenty feet in height, representing a scimitar with suspended crescent claws.

The Casino had been very tastefully decorated with rare plants, ferns, jonquilles and hyacinths, perfuming the air with delightful odors. Masonic designs were arranged upon the walls and columns. All this was planned by Mr. Seavey, who was exceedingly enthusiastic over his guests. Boxes were reserved for Noble Millar, his wife and invalid daughter, Julia, who, in enfeebled health, could not remain away from the dance, although unable to participate. The festivities commenced by the exhibition of fancy swimming, in the large swimming pool, by some dozen experts. Opened promptly at nine o'clock, with the grand promenade, led by Noble and Mrs. James McGee, followed by Mecca's Nobles, in full dress and fez, and their ladies, and some two hundred guests of the hotel. Dr. S. R. Ellison was installed as floor manager. Dancing was kept up until 12 o'clock, and was being much enjoyed.

During the evening the party was entertained by some sweet singing from Mrs. Newhall, the daughter of a Shriner of Minneapolis. The music for the occasion was supplied by the U. S. Barracks band.

The weather of Thursday being somewhat cool, a baseball match, which Mr. Seavey had arranged for our especial pleasure, was postponed until Friday. Among our pilgrims were many baseball sharps, and what they did not know about the game would not occupy half a page in any size book. As it was gotten up for our enjoyment, the Indians (baseball sharps every one, more particularly Roth) made their minds up to have an afternoon's fun. The game was between the Barracks and St. Augustine nine, under the control of Ryan of Capt. Anson's Chicago League Club, with Lieut. Partello as umpire—a big, good-natured fellow, who was not at all abashed at the guying. The players occupied one bench, and the Indians the other. The objections made, points raised, working of fog horns, kept all on the field in good humor, especially so when judgment was claimed upon a foul ball caught more than ninety feet from the rear of the home plate. Seated in a carriage in the outfield were Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Millar, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Barr, Mr. and Mrs. James McGee, Miss Annie Van Doren, Miss E. Eastin. Some excellent specimens of horsemanship were displayed by Nobles Clark of New Haven, Donnelly of Trenton, and

Mr. Piaget, of Paterson, who appeared on the field on horseback, especially Noble Clark, whose left foot, by some mishap, got out of the stirrup, and the noise in the field somewhat startling the spirited horse. Were he not an expert, no doubt he would have met with an accident. The game was good and close—4 to 2, in favor of the Barracks.

In the evening Mme. Janauschek gave a performance. In the company was the familiar face of Noble Stuart, of Kismet Temple. A large part of the audience were Mecca pilgrims.

Thus it will be seen that our time was well spent, and it was with many regrets from all sides that time was drawing nigh for our departure.

About thirty of the party started on Friday morning for a run over to Ocala and Silver Springs, and the Ocklawaha River, stopping at the Ocala House (strong contrast between it and the Ponce de Leon). At Ocala the party were met by Dr. Chas. W. Torrey, 33°, of Mecca, who, with his estimable wife, spend their winters in this section. Mrs. Torrey, we regret to announce, is in very enfeebled health. Dr. Torrey acted as guide for the pilgrims, and took pleasure in showing up the beauties of this section of country. They rejoined the main party at noon at Jacksonville, remaining over night at Ocala.

Another party of six, under the guidance of Noble Thad. B. Beecher, took a run down to Palatka on Friday morning; met the steamer running up the St. John's River, and enjoyed a lovely sail up to Jacksonville, then by rail back to St. Augustine in the evening.

Nobles Ellison, Clark, Barr and wife, McGee and wife, Joseph E. Miller, C. A. Benedict, and P. A. Bresnan and wife made a side trip as far as Palatka; spent a few hours and had a heap of fun in their own way; rode round and round the town, which has for shade orange trees. To the Northern this is a slow town. It being cool, whilst waiting at the depot, Doc Ellison gave evidence that he could get up early and light his own fire.

Early Saturday morning, accounts being all settled, after congratulating our host for his unvaried attention to us all, we entered the carriages in waiting and were driven to the depot, where our train was in waiting. On boarding each was presented with another souvenir, a brush made from the palmetto root, the back and bristles all being one piece. Good-by to St. Augustine, we're off for Jacksonville.

Our arrival at Jacksonville was the signal for a grand ovation. The Nobles of Morocco Temple, drawn up in line, were awaiting our coming. Alighting from our car the lines were formed to enable Morocco's committee to pass along and attach to the breast of each Noble and lady one of their handsome Shrine badges. Outside the depot open barouches were in readiness for a drive over the city, in each of which were placed three of Mecca's pilgrims and one of the Jacksonville Nobles, whose duty it was to

describe all points of interest en route. The ride consumed the spare time up to the midday meal at the St. James Hotel, where we domiciled during our stay in this city. After dinner the entire party were driven to the wharf, where they boarded the steamer, which had been chartered for our especial benefit by our kind hearted, hospitable and generous brother, Charles H. Cummings, 33°, that we might enjoy a fine sail down the beautiful St. John's River, and become his guests at his magnificent mansion and grounds, "Keystone Bluff," about two miles down the river from the city of Jacksonville. This winter retreat of Brother Cummings holds a commanding situation on the west bank of the St. John's. The sail was very much appreciated by all. To add to the glory, Brother Cummings had also placed at the disposal of the O.Gs. of the party (his especial friends) his steam yacht, the speediest on the river. This with the little party of nine started after the steamer, and with broom held aloft at the mainmast passed the companion boat before reaching the dock. The Indians could plainly be heard moaning.

Brother Schoonmaker, Brother Cummings' man Friday, and his good wife, not forgetting the bright little son, was on hand, and on behalf of the host extended a right royal welcome to "Keystone Bluff." He stated that Brother Cummings' words to him were that Mecca's pilgrims were to imagine that they had bought the place and had just moved in. All were to feel at home, *sans cérémonie*. The house, which is an architectural design of Brother Cummings (the drawings and plans of rooms being made during his leisure railroad rides), was inspected, and impressed every one with its comfortable layout. There is nothing lacking that wealth can purchase. The stable, with the venerable Arabian steed; the bowling alley, billiard room, etc., all well kept, were duly inspected by the pilgrims. The orange grove is one of the finest and largest in northern Florida, and none in the State shows the result of better care. Here is the result of the brainwork of Brother Cummings' man Schoonmaker. From end to end of the grove is a broad avenue. In the centre of the grove is one of the most massive of live oaks in the country. From the immense trunk its branches spread for over 150 feet from either side. Brother Cummings is particularly proud of this old oak.

The host's request was fully complied with. In the orange grove each selected a tree weighted down with its golden fruit, and they feasted to their entire satisfaction. Mr. Schoonmaker had sent men through the groves with pruning knives, with instructions to cut down such branches with clusters of oranges as the individual pilgrim might fancy. When the party emerged from the grove, each bore an evidence that they had been there. A photographer was on hand, and the party, oranges and all, were taken *en group*, both in the grove and in front of the mansion. About five

o'clock the party returned to Jacksonville, much impressed and pleased with their afternoon's treat, and showering many praises upon the head of Brother Charles H. Cummings for his liberality and hospitality. Before leaving, the name and address of each pilgrim and pilgrimess was personally entered in a neatly bound register. To add to the favors received, Bro. Schoonmaker, at Bro. Cummings' request, placed a number of boxes of the choicest oranges on the pilgrims' train. In fact, our baggage car resembled more the appearance of a fruit car, from the number of boxes of oranges, tangerines, etc., purchased by individual members of the party and placed in the car at St. Augustine.

After supper at the St. James, the male Shrine contingent, leaving the ladies to enjoy a concert in the parlors of the hotel, repaired to Masonic Hall to confer the order of the Shrine in Morocco Temple. The disastrous fire last year in this city had destroyed all the costumes and paraphernalia of this Temple. Mecca's original costumes had been brought with the party, and did service on this occasion. Between Mecca and Pyramid Temple a staff of working material was got together, and after a couple of brief rehearsals they were ready for biz, and excellent work was the result, notwithstanding the time was limited in consequence of the hour set for our train to start. Eleven novices bowed the head and are now full fledged, and will long remember and appreciate the auspices under which they "jined" the order. The following was the working staff: Ill. Thad. B. Beecher as Potentate; Charles A. Benedict, High Priest and Prophet; Geo. W. Millar and Dr. S. R. Ellison as Chief and Assistant Rabbans; James McGee, Oriental Guide; Henry Setzer, Jr., Marshal; P. H. Bresnan and Joseph E. Miller, Ceremonial Masters; Wm. Frisbie, Director; E. S. Sumner, Azra; Orland Smith, Mukhabbir; Thos. Lawrence, Abdallah. During the evening we were surprised to find in our midst one of Mecca's Nobles, whom we had supposed was hustling for orders in New York—Noble Stephen D. Affleck. He had run down with Bro. Charles H. Cummings and Geo. Arnold to perpetrate a surprise upon us, but sudden illness compelled Bro. Cummings to halt at the hotel in Jacksonville. This we very much regretted, as it would have been a pleasure to all to have met and greeted him.

At the conclusion of the work of the degree an excellent banquet was served by Morocco Temple. A large and beautiful floral crescent was presented by the Nobles and ladies of Morocco Temple to the visitors, and carried North. With the Nobles of Morocco as escorts we rejoined our ladies and our train, very much regretting that our stay could not have been prolonged. Nobles Charles Burroughs, Pullman Manager for this section of country, and Thos. Lawrence, both of Mecca, were with Nobles Ely, Stevens, Webster, and the rest of the Jacksonville Nobles on the plat-

form, cheering in response to the Indian whoop as we started on our homeward journey. After a comparison of notes on the day's pleasures, all retired, except the stag and dining car contingent. They were rehearsing *hims* and *sams* for the morrow.

Sunday morning was bright and clear in Savannah, Ga., where we arrived about four o'clock. At six all began to move about. After breakfast the carriages in waiting were filled, and a drive taken on the shell road to Bonaventure Cemetery, noted for its trees literally covered with hanging moss. This was a rare sight for our people. Returning, the ride was extended over the city, its sandy streets and fine houses inspected. Noble Clifton A. E. Merritt, of Mecca, connected with Savannah's finest hotel, the De Sota, was on hand, and rendered efficient service to the pilgrims. It being the Sabbath the customary quiet pervaded.

At ten o'clock our train moved out of the depot at Savannah, destined for the noted city of Charleston, S. C. About four hours' run, and we were being drawn through the busy streets of that city. Through the intervention of Brother A. S. Jones, of Chancellor Walworth Lodge, New York City, who is the Superintendent of the New York and Charleston warehouses, and now a resident of that city, our train was transferred to the East Shore Terminal Road and taken directly to the Market Street wharf, where lay in waiting the steamer Pocosin, to take us over the beautiful harbor of Charleston, with its many points of historic interest. Brother Jones had arranged with prominent Charlestonians, in the persons of Col. W. W. Simmons, Capt. W. Aiken Kelly, Gen. T. A. Huguenin (Commandant of the fort during the rebellion), and many others, and were formally introduced to the party, who dispersed among the pilgrims, and did excellent service in pointing out everything of interest in and about the harbor. The day was lovely, and the view from the steamer was delightful, eliciting admiration from all. We were first taken to Sullivan's Island. After landing some of the people, we then set out to fully view Old Sumter, Morris Island, Castle Pinckney, etc.; then back to Sullivan's Island, where we disembarked, walked up to Fort Moultrie, entered the subterranean passages, with Gen. Huguenin on hand to explain all the points, he having been on the spot in the heat of the fray. We were enjoying a rare treat. Many were the questions he was plied with. Remember, in our pilgrim crowd were those who had "fit agin him." Here was a pleasant gathering—Gen. R. A. Donnelly, with Nobles L. A. Piaget, P. H. Bresnan, and other Northern warriors who wore the blue, now side by side with those of the gray—the unanimous vote being that these social visits were productive of the greatest healing results. Some of the party wandered along the sandy beach. Col. Simmons presented Mrs. James McGee, as a souvenir of the visit, one of the original grapeshot that was

fired upon Fort Sumter. The steamer returned to Charleston at six o'clock, and all were amply repaid for their visit to this city. Whilst being drawn from the wharf to the main depot, which occupied about an hour, Messrs. Huguenin, Simmons, Kelly, Supt. Towsley, of the East Shore Terminal Co., A. S. Jones, and the others who had courteously given of their time, were conducted to the "Diner" and spiritually entertained—corks popped, and the North, South, East and West under one flag was freely drunk. This was one of the first occasions where Mecca's Orator—Noble Geo. W. Millar—had a chance to get in his eloquence. He made up for lost time.

A notification from the conductor that we were about to start brought on the inevitable parting. All were loath to separate, and the Charlestonians' expressed wish was that we would come down and establish a Shrine in their midst. We agreed; they to get the material together. This is one of the few States that is without a Shrine Temple, the nearest on the South and West being Jacksonville, Fla., and Atlanta, Ga., and on the North, Richmond, Va. We journeyed North through the night, passing through Weldon, Wilmington, etc.

Monday, January 25, we are passing through Petersburg, Va., then Manchester, and finally arrived at Old Virginny's capital, Richmond, about 9.30 A.M. At Manchester we were greeted by the smiling face of Capt. Frank Cunningham (the sweet singer of the South), Louis P. Ecker, Acca's genial Potentate, Nobles George Street, James Capers, our old friend of 1871, when first we visited Richmond; Pres. Belvin, W. H. Sands, Chas. Williams, and others, who were Acca's advance committee, sent to greet and welcome us to their hospitable city. We all felt somewhat at home, for many had been here before, and had not forgotten the regal welcome they had received; the friendships established then had continued and been duly cemented. Our breakfast was to be the last meal in our dining-car. This all regretted, for the service had been excellent, and the food well selected and cooked. Our home during our stay in Richmond was to be the Ballard-Exchange Hotel.

On leaving our train we entered the depot waiting-room. Here introductions to Richmond Nobles took place, and plans for the day laid out. Our first trip was to the tobacco factory of Messrs. Mayo. This was thoroughly gone through, and for the pleasure of their visitors the colored employés gave some of their musical jubilee selections. This the pilgrims heartily appreciated. A special invitation had been extended, and a visit was then made to the immense cigarette establishment of Messrs. Allen & Ginter. It is some years since a party had been permitted to visit this establishment and view its twelve hundred employés. This visit was duly appreciated. How deftly the females handled the cigarettes and arranged

them complete and ready for market! This establishment is complete in every detail, even to the manufacture of the boxes, a large force being detailed for that branch. As the party passed out they were each presented with a box of Virginia Brights, one of Dainties cigarettes, and a handsome illuminated book of the "Inventors of the World," as souvenirs of their visit.

The old Capitol was then visited. Both Senate and Assembly were in session. The library and corridor, with their antiquities and paintings, received a share of our time, after which we were honored by an audience with Governor McKinney at the Executive Department, each of the party being introduced to his Excellency. From here the party, under escort of Noble James H. Capers, visited the Colored Normal School. To the address of welcome by Noble Capers, Noble H. C. Walcott, one of Mecca's youngest, responded, to the gratification of all. Excellent singing and recitations by the scholars made this one of the features of the day's pleasure. The entire party then repaired to the hotel for dinner.

After dinner came a drive over this city of hills, through its fine streets, to St. John's Church. Here a halt was made. All entered the cemetery and church. After being seated in the church, the sexton came forward and gave a description of this historic landmark that has stood for over a century. Here it was where Patrick Henry delivered his famous speech: "Give me liberty, or give me death!" Every one of our party left the church, gratified with the knowledge that they had sat in the famed pew where those thrilling words were delivered. It took some time for all to go the rounds. As we passed through the city, the residences of Jeff. Davis and General R. E. Lee; St. Paul's Church, where Davis received the telegram announcing Lee's surrender; the site of Libby Prison, Tredegar Iron Works, etc., were all pointed out to view. We were then driven out to the Soldiers' Home, the Reservoir Park and the Lee Monument. This is one of the finest in the country without doubt, and stands boldly out to view for miles.

On the return drive we were taken to the new Masonic Temple, a fine structure. Here a musical entertainment and banquet had been arranged for our benefit by Acca Temple. The Nobles of Acca and their ladies had assembled, and general introductions took place. Grand Recorder Isaacs of both the Grand Encampment and the Grand Commandery of Virginia holds his office here and was on hand to help in the entertaining. Noble George L. Street introduced Noble James H. Capers, who on behalf of Acca extended a thoroughly Virginian welcome to Mecca's Nobles, ladies and guests. Noble John Meyer, 33°, gave to the party largely from his exchequer of confederate money in currency and bills, Mrs. J. Harvey

Magruder and Noble Frank Cunningham sang selections, and by special request Frank gave us what he can do so well, "The Blue and the Gray." Baseler's band discoursed sweet music.

When this portion of the programme was concluded, all marched to the banquet hall, which was tastefully decorated with palms, ferns, and other plants and flowers. All were then seated and partook of a magnificent banquet. Toasts and speeches were indulged in, Noble Sands of Acca acting as toastmaster. Mecca was ably responded to by Nobles H. C. Walcott and Charley Benedict; the latter gent, being somewhat at home with the Richmondites, spread himself at the expense of his appetite. He sampled all the bottles for ideas, and previous to the banquet could be seen perambulating the corridors thumping his breast. To many he resembled Napoleon at St. Helena. After Charley got his Dutch up he came out all right. Acca was cared for by Noble Louis P. Ecker. Pyramid, of Bridgeport, by Noble Thad Beecher (Thad was good, and Pyramid lost nothing); poor Thad, like Benedict, had been taken unawares, was on the hunt for pointers previous to the feed, and, like Charley, he got there with both feet. Noble R. A. Donnelly looked after Lu Lu, of Philadelphia. To Noble A. Leavett, of El Kalah Temple, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was intrusted the task of responding to "The Ladies." He was ably assisted by the Indians, who again came to his rescue just in the nick of time. Everything has its ending, so had these festivities, and reluctantly we were compelled to say good-by. Acca's Nobles and ladies, arm in arm with Mecca's, marched to the Elbe depot, where our train had been transferred from the lower depot, and at 10.35 we bid adieu to Acca's Nobles, ladies, and Richmond, after spending one of the happiest days and evenings of our trip. We all regretted exceedingly that the continued illness of the fair daughter of Noble George W. Millar had compelled him to continue North with his wife and daughter on the regular train in the morning, and thereby miss the pleasures we had all participated in. The balls we had carried from New York with us to be used by kickers were not required; there was no occasion to use them. Everything ran as smooth as clockwork, and about on time we arrived in Jersey City. On Tuesday morning, January 26, Nobles Wait and wife, George West, M. D. Barr and wife and Mrs. James McGee alighted at Washington to do that city. On Tuesday, during the night, Noble Bissinger and wife left us at Philadelphia, Gen. Donnelly at Trenton, and John Contrell at Newark; otherwise the entire party came on to New York.

At Philadelphia Noble John N. Salisbury, Jr., boarded our train, and looked after the delivery of all baggage to all points in New York and Brooklyn. This brought to a happy terminus one of the pleasantest of Mecca's family pilgrimages.

1892.—May 26, Bridgeport and Hartford.—Mecca, of New York, and Pyramid, of Bridgeport, seem to go hand in hand in all matters of pilgrimages. It would be a rare occurrence to see one come off, arranged by either Temple, that both Temples would not be represented largely by their membership. This occasion was no exception to the general rule. Pyramid Temple decided to hold a May session, and confer the degree in their capital city. Hartford Meccaites were invited to be present and participate, and a number of Nobles, headed by Nobles Charles A. Benedict and James McGee, went forth, and had, as usual, an enjoyable time in a parade. The festivities ended with a banquet at the Allyn House. The visiting Nobles of Mecca were not as numerous as on our former visit, the day selected being Ascension Day, and the Templar Commanderies of New York City being largely interested in the service at St. Paul's Church.

1892.—July 17, Kingston.—A special train of the West Shore Railroad conveyed two hundred of Mecca's Nobles and officers to the city of Kingston, where arrangements had been made for a full exemplification of the Mystic Shrine ceremonies upon fifty candidates, resident at Poughkeepsie and river towns, as well as some who came up from the city of New York. This being an invasion of foreign territory, a waver of jurisdiction had been graciously granted by Cypress Temple, of Albany, for this occasion, they bringing down some candidates, who met the same fate as those of Mecca. Ill. Nobles A. W. Peters, C. A. Benedict, Charles H. Heyzer, Robert P. Lyon, in fact all of Mecca's officers were there, and felt just as much at home in their work as at Scottish Rite Hall. The work ran just as smoothly, barring the hilarity of members on the outside, who were working outside degrees, and having a good time generally. On arrival at Kingston, a short march brought all to the Rink. Noble Samuel Terhune, Mecca's caterer, having preceded the party, had prepared a palatable sit-down lunch of eatables and drinkables, which filled each and every aching void. At 6.30 P. M., the line was formed, and marched to the magnificent rooms of Kingston Lodge, No. 10, F. & A. M. Horns, cowbells, etc., greatly aided the band. After the ceremonies of the degree, cars were in waiting, and conveyed the party to our train in waiting for the homeward journey, which was made exceedingly lively with the aforesaid horns, cowbells, etc. Good nature and jollity prevailed, and the "stag" outing was voted a success.

1892.—August 1–19.—Pilgrimage to participate in the festivities attendant upon the Twenty-fifth Triennial Conclave of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar at Denver, Colorado, and the Session of the Imperial Council of the Mystic Shrine at Omaha, Nebraska. This was in keeping with all previous pilgrimages—a grand success. In the party were the following: Geo. W. Millar, J. B. Eakins, S. R. Ellison, M.D.,

delegates to the Imperial Council; Rev. Cornelius L. Twing and Rev. G. M. Dorwart, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Sisson, Miss Sarah L. McGee, Miss Lucy Warner, Miss Millie Strathman, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Grannis, J. J. Manning, W. G. Kinzey, P. B. Spooner, John C. Hall, Wm. C. Heaton, Geo. A. Vreeland, Wm. E. Hoff, Charles Olp, A. Blauvelt, M.D., Thos. Bonner, Geo. Knipe, M.D., J. H. Downes, D.D.S., M. H. Van Hovenberg, Oscar Comstock, Wm. Voght, H. Eugene Smith, M.D., Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Eldad L. Clarke, C. A. Grannis, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Whiting, E. O. Keeler, Mr. and Mrs. David Clark, John W. Service, W. E. Whittemore, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Sperling, Geo. Howell, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Dey, John P. Contrell, Wm. A. Cole, J. N. Morris, W. P. Webster, Thos. J. Bishop, John E. Warner, George Scott, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Piaget, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Piaget, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Harmon, Wm. Stephenson, Alfred Winfield, D. Arnold, James Levie, A. A. Van Hovenberg, H. R. Strickfuss, Robert Blackburn, Benj. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lockwood, Louis Braun, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Van Nostrand, Wm. Malcolm, A. J. McCormack, Miss Zereda Murray, Miss Mary Connolly, J. F. Tompkins, F. Miller, A. E. Bernd, H. Meigle, J. Mundy, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Beems, Chas. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kosmak, Chas. Booth, H. Roth.

The itinerary was carried out except in one instance, and that through no fault of the management; although a temporary annoyance, still the humor produced was greatly enjoyed and appreciated. After the party had gotten down to solid acquaintanceship, which does not take long with these gatherings, all entered into a spirit of good humor and jollity; strangers are not strangers long in such society as Drs. Twing, Dorwart, Ellison & Co. Mr. L. A. Piaget, of the Paterson contingent, wrote up and published the trip, from which we glean sufficient to give the opinion and experience of a pilgrim not a Shriner:

"Did you ever take an outing with a party of Nobles connected with Mecca Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine? You have not? Then you have missed one of the most interesting and enjoyable events of your life. Twice has it been my privilege and pleasure to accompany them on pilgrimages, and as I am not a Shriner I had to occupy the position of an accompanist last January to the South as far as Florida, and this time to the great West, including the Rocky Mountains.

"Go with me in imagination, and try to grasp the doings of sixty-five of the jolliest fellows you ever traveled with, completely let loose from the cares of business, and bent upon extracting out of the time allotted all the fun and information possible, catching the sublime as well as the ridiculous sides of whatever transpired, and then you can form a faint idea of a 'Mecca Pilgrimage!'

" Soon we were all settled in our respective sections, which were to be our homes for eighteen days. . . . Some of us who had crossed the Southern sandy desert last January found the same familiar faces going with us across the Western sands, and many pleasant greetings and hand-shakings were exchanged. Introductions followed, and but one opinion was heard on all sides, 'Isn't it a splendid party?' "

The first halt was made at Cincinnati. Here a committee of Syrian Temple met the pilgrims. After a ride about the city their magnificent Scottish Rite Cathedral was thrown open to the inspection of the party; here the Shrine Temple holds forth in regular session. An excellent repast was served in the banquet hall, where speeches of welcome were made by Nobles W. B. Melish, and responses by Nobles J. McGee and Rev. C. L. Twing. The following day saw the party in Kansas City (St. Louis having been run through early in the morning), where Western hospitality was doled out without stint. The committee of Ararat Temple had been lying in wait for the visitors, and the beauties of their city shown by a carriage ride, followed by a magnificent dinner at the Coates Hotel, at which every one of the pilgrims was presented with a full size solid silver Kansas City souvenir teaspoon inscribed "Ararat to Mecca." The evening was spent in a very pleasant manner at Ararat's Shrine head-quarters, where the Nobles had assembled their ladies to welcome Mecca's ladies. Refreshments in abundance were served with palatable seductive liquids. Ararat's Potentate, Ethelbert Allen, with pleasant language welcomed Mecca's pilgrims, and Nobles J. McGee and Rev. Drs. C. L. Twing and G. Dorwart did the honors for the visitors. All formality was removed, the Kansas City and Metropolitan Nobles and ladies intermingled. The musical genius, Noble John H. Miller, of Ararat, had composed several pieces, dedicating them to Mecca's pilgrims, to the tune of "Marching through Georgia" and "When Johnny comes Marching Home;" these were sung by their excellent quartet. Of the first we quote a couple of the stanzas :

" Come, we'll tune our voices, boys, we'll sing a Shriners' song—
Words of glee and sweetest cheer and words of welcome strong,
Sing for all the Nobles that great Mecca's Temple throng,
While they are passing through Missouri.

CHORUS.

" Hurrah! hurrah! we sing to Mecca's weal!
Hurrah! hurrah! we sing a welcome real!
Mecca was the first around the Mystic Shrine to kneel;
And now she's passing through Missouri.

" How our Nobles shouted in their joyfulness and glee,
When they heard the coming of Noble James McGee,
And they swore they'd make his welcome strong as it could be,
While he is passing through Missouri.

CHORUS.—Hurrah! etc."

The best of friends must part; the pilgrims reluctantly bid adieu late in the evening, being escorted to their train by the entire party of resident Nobles and ladies.

The following evening (August 4) brought us to Denver, where we made a short halt, changing to the Denver & Rio Grande R. R., which carried us through the scenic Colorado. A delegation from El Jebel Temple was at the depot to greet us and bid us welcome. A 11 P.M. we started southward, through Colorado Springs and Pueblo, and the morning of August 5th we passed through and had an excellent view of the Grand Cañon of the Arkansas and the Royal Gorge. At Salida we were transferred to the Narrow Gauge Railroad, to climb the mountains through the mining towns, our train of Pullman going *via* the Broad Gauge Leadville Branch to join us later. We pass through Alamosa; the Toltec Gorge (which, in the pilgrims' estimation, is the grandest and most beautiful, from a scenic standpoint, yet witnessed); Antonito and Durango, where we domiciled over night, thus taking in the beauties of the entire route by daylight. Noble W. Ackerman, of El Jebel Temple, was located here. He, with the Gridiron Club, royally welcomed us and entertained us very hospitably. The following morning our train carried us through majestic and grand scenery from Durango, through Silverton and Ironton (the richest mining section of Colorado), where the old-fashioned Concord Stage coaches took the entire party a ride of nine miles. The mountain ride capped the climax. Fancy a ride over the mountains, on top of a stage coach, on a road not more than a foot of ground to spare beyond the outer wheels. You look down the mountain side for thousands of feet, whilst looming up on the opposite side the mountains rise thousands of feet. The drivers are experienced, therefore we feel perfectly safe. All were in raptures over the grandeur of the picturesque scenery, and the impression will remain forever. Several of the pilgrims, who had visited Switzerland and other noted points in Europe, conceded that nothing equals Colorado. Justice cannot be done it in cold type. You want ocular demonstration.

It was a beautiful sight, when we rounded the mountain, and the neat little city of Ouray hove in sight, snugly situated in the valley (7,500 feet above the sea level). After an excellent dinner at the hotel we boarded the train for our Grand Junction, where our special Pullman train was in waiting, and conveyed us on to Salt Lake City, Utah, where we arrived 6 P.M., Sunday, August 7. After breakfast in our dining car, service was held in the car occupied by our Paterson delegation, who had brought a small parlor organ with them, Rev. Drs. Twing and Dorwart officiating. A representative committee from El Kalah Temple, of Salt Lake City, headed by Noble Aaron Leavett (one of our Southern pilgrims), were in waiting, and had arranged a special early trip to the Great Salt Lake, where

a dip in the briny waters was indulged. We were back to the city for lunch, after which the entire party were driven about the city, and to the famous Mormon Temple, where seats had been reserved for their special use, and they witnessed the service peculiar to this community. This building seats 13,500. The remainder of the day was devoted to viewing the city in this Mormon home. As we have, in former pages, treated upon this cty, we will refrain from consuming further space about its many points of interest. We bid adieu in the evening, and were soon wending our way toward Grand Junction, Glenwood Springs and Leadville. The Templars at the former place had very generously stolen a march as we passed through in the early morn, and loaded our baggage-car with many boxes of luscious peaches. At Glenwood Springs we halted several hours, and indulged in a swimming bath in the Hot Sulphur Springs. En route, we pass through Eagle Cañon to Tennessee Pass. We are 11,000 feet in air, with snow in sight. At Leadville a committee of resident Templars met the party with carriages, drove about the city, and to the famous A. Y. and Minnie Silver Mine. Suits were provided, and (a novelty to all the party) a silver mine, some 440 feet deep, was explored and samples of silver ore procured. This mine turns into its two owners' coffers $2,000 per day. The American Smelting Works were visited. On the return to our train we drove through the famous "California Gulch," and witnessed placer gold mining.

Promptly on time, 6 A.M., Tuesday, August 9, we pull into Denver, prepared to participate in the Templar Triennial festivities. As the decorations, parade, electric display, etc., attendant upon this grand occasion have been lavishly treated by the press, we will move on, simply noting the fact that we were all right in it—didn't miss a trick.

On the afternoon of the 10th we started for Palmer Lake, Colorado Springs, Manitou, Garden of the Gods, Pike's Peak, making Manitou our stopping point for two days. We viewed everything of note, even to the Cog-wheel Railroad, and took the ride to the top of Pike's Peak, where we found overcoats and wraps were serviceable. The fun of throwing snowballs in August was indulged, whilst those at home were sweltering up in the nineties. The ascent, an hour at the summit, and the descent occupied just about half a day. C. W. Barker, of the Barker House, Manitou, made a contract which he failed to keep. Long ere this he has seen cause to regret his action. The time at Manitou was cut short one day and given to Omaha, which city was reached in the afternoon of August 13, stopping at the Millard Hotel, our home during our stay. Reception and sightseeing became the order. An excellent programme having been arranged by Tangier Nobles, with Gustav Anderson, Williams, Akin, at the head. They and their committee were ever on the alert to make the visitors at

home and happy. Committees of the resident ladies were on hand to care for the gentle sex. Hospitalities were unbounded. The Shriners' parade, with Mecca on the right of the line, was grand. Fezes and claws were to be seen on all sides. It was open house on all sides. Every moment of time was enjoyed. On the afternoon of Tuesday, August 16, we bid adieu to Omaha, and wended our way toward the Windy City—Chicago—arriving Wednesday A.M., August 17, leaving for New York in the afternoon, after viewing the World's Fair buildings. Mr. L. A. Piaget thus closes his sketch of the pilgrimage :

"We left Chicago at 2.15 P.M., homeward bound. Nothing of especial interest occurred until near Goshen, when our friends from the other cars gathered in the "Sumatra" to say good-by. We had traveled in one train for eighteen days, as it were a big family of boys and girls, yet all this time not a word of complaint or dissatisfaction in the party. Eighteen days of pleasure, fun and education; for was it not an educator? Every day a chapter, the whole a book; stored away a memory to be opened and read at intervals as we journey along through life. Just another one to put on the shelf, take down, dust off, and, opening up its leaves, recall its scenes again. For who that was in the party can but say such journeys are educators, lifting one to a higher plane, filling our souls with grandeur and nobler thoughts and aspirations? We had taken two sides of life, the sublime and ridiculous, and got all out of them that was possible. We liked our beefsteak and substantials, but we had our ice-cream and cake as well, and the two harmonized. Dr. Twing presented the following set of resolutions, which were adopted:

"'For eighteen days we have been traveling together in the path of pleasure and instruction, and our happiness has indeed been most perfect. We have journeyed over six thousand miles, going to the tops of the mountains and down to the depths of the earth. In all the varied scenes of wonder and enlightenment our comfort has been constantly promoted and our every want supplied by the indefatigable and constant attention of our manager and director, Mr. James McGee. We would, therefore, express to him our heartfelt thanks for the excellent manner in which he has performed the many duties of his trying position, and we take pleasure in saying that he gave us the best of all the excursions that were made to Denver and parts adjacent, in August, 1892. To Dr. S. R. Ellison, the badge fiend and photo hunter, we would also express our thanks. He decorated us with the badge of the season, and by his cheering words and ready wit made the hours bright and joyous. If we had possession of the miserable wretch who "swiped" his valise, we would mete out to him a punishment that would be hard to bear.

"'To the general and local passenger agents, engineers, conductors and trainmen of the various roads over which we passed so safely transported, we would return our thanks for the uniform kindness and attention shown to us. In all our journeyings, we have met but two men who failed to honor contracts previously made—the man at Durango, and the misrepresentative of Masonic honor and obligation at Manitou. These are the only spots on the bright escutcheon of Mecca which has been borne by us from the East to the West, and everywhere welcomed and honored.

"At Durango, when we thought we should have to go supperless to bed, and be content with a stomach full of mountain scenery, Sir Knight Wm. P. Ackerman, of Denver Commandery and El Jebel Temple, and the members of the Gridiron Club, proved themselves to be gentlemen of the highest order of nobility. They, at the witching hour of midnight, aroused their chef and his assistants, and prepared a banquet for the ladies, furnishing an ample and satisfactory menu, without any Rice in it. These kindnesses we appreciate, and we proudly assert that the Knights of the Gridiron at Durango are good men and true.

"The wheels of our Pullman chariots are fast rolling around and bringing us nearer home and farther away from the Sir Knights and Illustrious Nobles of Cincinnati, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City, Grand Junction and Omaha, but neither time nor space can cause us to forget the Knightly courtesies and the Oriental welcome to us in the tents of the sons of the desert stationed at these oases. We recognize this fact, that the bond that binds us together knows no East or West, or North or South, but that it is a union of hearts and a union of hands that will hold us together forever.

"Lastly, we must say to each and all, 'God be with you till we meet again!'"

Committee—Cornelius L. Twing, Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. O. Keeler, Norwalk, Conn.; T. J. Bishop, Albany, N. Y.; W. P. Webster, Jacksonville, Fla.; W. E. Sperling, New Brunswick, N. J.; J. W. Sisson, New York; Eldad E. Clark, Dover, Del.; N. B. Grannis, Waterbury, Conn.; Rev. Geo. W. Dorwart, Paterson, N. J.; Wm. A. Cole, Red Bank, N. J.; A. A. Van Hovenberg, Paterson, N. J.

1893, March 16–April 5, City of Mexico.—If you desire to intelligently see the country under the most favorable of auspices, and be hospitably received and entertained with courtesies and attentions, then never miss an occasion to join with Mecca Temple when her membership start out on a pilgrimage to do up some portion of the country. Mecca being the parent Temple of the Order of the Mystic Shrine in America, her offspring throughout the land are ever glad of an opportunity to show the respect and esteem held for the *old lady*. Under her auspices all parts of

the United States have been pretty thoroughly explored, and the last pilgrimage took them through the sunny South into the home of the Montezumas—the Mexican Republic—the first Mystic Shrine invasion into a foreign country (Canada don't count). The party left New York, Thursday evening, March 16, passing through Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Shenandoah Valley, Luray Caverns, Chattanooga, Tenn., Birmingham, Ala., New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, and Eagle Pass, Texas, crossing the Rio Grande to the domain of President Diaz, 33°, Mexico, and remained in and about the capital for five days, taking in all the sights of this ancient city.

On the return the route was changed, passing through Austin and Dallas, Texas; Hot Springs and Little Rock, Ark.; Memphis, Tenn.; Mammoth Cave and Louisville, Ky.; Cincinnati, Pittsburg, Washington, and then home, arriving in New York at 11 o'clock the evening of April 4, after an absence of about three weeks. In the party were Mr. and Mrs. George W. Millar, Dr. Saram R. Ellison, Mr. and Mrs. Horace J. Farrington, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Brogan, Mr. Paul Micolini, Mr. James McGee, Miss Edith McGee, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Bresnan, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph C. Wenzel, Miss E. Burkhard, Miss A. Sayers, Mr. George E. Watkins, Mr. Thomas Kellogg, Mr. Louis F. Braun, C. F. Myers, M.D., Mr. C. B. Alston, E. B. Bemis, M.D., Mr. John P. Contrell, Mr. Alex. H. Ross, Mr. Edward N. Little, Miss Florence E. Little, Mr. William A. Cole, Prof. Joel Wilson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson J. Welton, Mr. Fred. A. Spencer, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Grannis, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Holmes, Mrs. E. C. Kirby, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Whiting, Mr. John C. Shelton, Mr. David M. Reed, Mr. Norman Burdick and wife, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Abbe, Mr. and Mrs. Phil. Bissinger, Mr. A. H. Hartley, Mr. L. C. Belcher, Mr. George A. Loud, Mr. J. A. Morris.

Many of the party participated in other of the pilgrimages, few introductions were necessary, and the second day on the road every one felt at home, all were genial and good-natured, and with Doc Ellison bedecked with Harry Kernell derby, T. A. B. badge and green tie, in honor of Paddy's day, March 17, the journey through the Luray Caverns was made very pleasant, notwithstanding snow was falling (outside). These caverns are indeed worthy a visit. After going through Luray and the Mammoth Cave, the verdict of the pilgrims is that the latter is "not in it" with Luray Caverns. Outside the Star Chamber and an abyss or two, Mammoth Cave is just what its name expresses, "a mammoth cave." Not so Luray Caverns: the electric lights and magnesium wire continuously show up to view wonders in the various formations; one is not compelled to draw very heavy upon the imagination.

Chattanooga, Tenn.—Under the guidance of Noble George C. Connor, Past Potentate of the Alhambra Temple, we rode to the top of Lookout Mountain, and from its summit viewed Orchard Mountain, Missionary Ridge, the Moccasin, etc. Noble Philip Bissinger and others of the party had been here before, but under different auspices. Upon rejoining our train, our party was increased by the addition of the Potentate, High Priest and Recorder of Zamora Temple, who acted as a committee of escort to the city of Birmingham, Ala. Nobles and ladies were out in large numbers to receive and bid us welcome. We were given a ride about the city, and to the Caldwell Hotel, where we were banqueted. The parlors were beautifully decorated in our honor. Here the reception was continued; music and singing enlivened the occasion. The parting with the Nobles and ladies of this live city was with many regrets, for the hours spent had been very pleasant.

New Orleans was seen at its best. It was Sunday—a lovely day. We visited the French market, the cathedral, Audubon Park, the levee, and out upon the old "shell road" to the clubhouse on Lake Pontchartrain. Here we were served with a true Southern fish dinner. The Nobles of Jerusalem Temple were up early, and received and entertained us royally. The entire day was given to our pleasure and entertainment. Potentate Charles F. Buck drew all to him with the eloquence of his address of welcome. King Rex, who ruled over the Carnival of 1893, was there, and especially welcomed the pilgrims. In parting with the Nobles of New Orleans we also left Noble Lyman McCarty and wife, the representative of the B. & O. R. R., who traveled thus far to see that our every want was attended to. He turned us over to the tender mercies of Mr. Charles Miner, Passenger Agent of the Mexican Central R. R., who proved a valuable acquisition to the party, obliging and affable, and whose knowledge of the country through which we passed made him serviceable in enlightening inquisitive pilgrims. At San Antonio, his old home, he piloted the party through the city and to the Plains were Davy Crockett did his hottest and last fighting. Miner remained with us all through Mexico, and when he left us at Dallas, Texas, on the return trip, it was like parting with a friend of many years' standing. The genial and happy Noble Robert Talfor, a member of Mecca, but a resident of Galveston, ran up and greeted us at Houston as our train halted to change engines.

The Mexican government, through its custom officers at Ciudad Porfirio Diaz, the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, treated us very courteously, simply walking through the train, no mortal or his belonging being disturbed.

Noble Charles Agramonte, 33°, of Mecca Temple, a resident of the city of Mexico, met us at the border, having traversed over a thousand

miles to meet and convey us to the Mexican capital. His knowledge of the country, language, and people, and his experiences in all parts of the world, caused his society to be greatly courted.

The Mexican country was wild and weird. To the right and left, fore and aft, nothing but cactus and Spanish bayonet plants, many in blossom, met the eye. Rain had not made its appearance in several years. Everything was dried up. Occasionally an adobe hut hove in sight, before which were half-clad natives, old and young, with a pig or two thrown in. As our train stopped there would gather scores of these poor mortals (you would wonder where they dropped from), saluting with *Sí*, *señor*, *centavo*, or cluster around the kitchen end of the dining car, ready to accept anything, even to the refuse from the table, and go off thankful. These were common occurrences. We were treated en route to a sandstorm. It blew in all directions, so thick it resembled a fog. Car windows, doors and ventilators were necessarily kept closed. The peculiarities of the people, mode of living, ancient style of plowing, baking, etc., were of deep interest to our pilgrims. The half dozen kodaks were constantly at work taking shots.

At Torreon we received, through a representative of the Mexican Minister, the freedom of the country, General Agramonte acting as interpreter.

Ex-Postmaster Wanamaker and family were en route over the same territory, but several days in advance of us. In the city of Mexico he was domiciled under the same roof with Mecca's pilgrims—"The Hotel Iturbide."

At Zacatecas we witnessed the greatest mining city in all Mexico. It is described, and truthfully, as a facsimile of an Egyptian city. Mining in all its phases was presented us—hoisting of the ore from the mine, sorting, bagging, loading upon the backs of burros, and carrying to the crushers and smelters.

Aguas Calientes (Hot Springs of Mexico), our next halt, give us our first true insight into a Mexican city. Conveyances were telegraphed for to meet our train. It was amusing to watch the eager eyes of the pilgrims as they drank in all that was curious, the people, their attire, quaint residences, mode of travel, etc. They became excellent customers, purchasing the needlework tidies, sandals, etc., from the natives, who found it necessary to replenish their stock in trade.

In the dining-car, for the following morning's breakfast, we were treated to our first strawberries, luscious and fine. At this particular station they are served every day in the year.

From our domicile in the city of Mexico, the Hotel Iturbide, formerly a palace, we made our trips into the country, one day taking in Chapultepec,

President Diaz's summer palace and the West Point of Mexico. Our inspection of this magnificent building was to all a treat. Here General Winfield Scott had a say. The late Emperor Maximilian, with his devoted wife Carlotta, held forth here in royal splendor. Being a couple gifted with a taste for the beautiful, they spared no expense in making this an ideal palace. More space than is at our disposal would be required—even though we had the ability—to accurately describe in detail the frescoes, ceilings, decorations, fountains, etc. The drive to the palace is magnificent. The primitive style of sprinkling to keep down the dust struck us as very slow. Just fancy you see a broad avenue, like the Boulevard, several miles long, and men sprinkling the road with buckets of water—that's right. This drive is well patronized every afternoon.

Guadalupe, with its ancient churches, costly paintings, blessed pool, was another of our trips. Then we visited the Museum. Here Mexican history is pretty thoroughly displayed; mementos and relics of her ancient rulers abound—Aztec images and antiquities, Maximilian's $50,000 gilded coach, silver plate, chinaware, paintings, the noted sacrificial stone, etc.

Our advent into Mexico was at the end of the season. We, therefore, were not in it at the operatic and fashionable displays for which this city is noted. A night at the Teatro Nacional was interesting to many of the party. Saturday was the Grand Annual Floral Feast. The natives gather in from the mountains, loaded with flowers and products, and the La Viga Canal is a great sight, with boats pushed along, gondola fashion, loaded with these articles. Every one you meet is bedecked; so are coaches, horses, wheels, whips, etc. Rich and poor alike are out this day, and it is with difficulty you can navigate through the crowds of natives, some with and some *almost* without clothing. The odors that greet your nostrils every few yards—well, Coney Island, with its Frankfurters, is a paradise. The novelty of this sight to our pilgrims was great—they would not have missed it—but once was enough for all. Here is where you witness real native Mexican Indian life.

Sunday we went to the great cathedral to hear excellent singing. Here again we met with sights strange to our gaze. Sunday in this land is *not exactly* the same as with us. Everything is *run wide open*. In the doorway of the cathedral lottery tickets were vended by women and children. Comstock is only wasting his time here with us, a broad field is open for him there. You have to take your religion standing, and crowded helter-skelter together are the cripples, the sick, the blind, the lame, the rich and poor. From these churches, we were informed, the most of the cases of fever and smallpox are carried, through the deep-rooted superstitions of these poor, ignorant and afflicted people.

It took our people but a few moments to decide when they had enough. They willingly sacrificed the excellent music for the risk of health in a close atmosphere on a hot day. Bull fighting is prohibited within the corporate limits. One did take place this day, but it would consume the entire day to get to it and return at midnight. We all declined.

At Tacabaya the Mexican Monte Carlo was witnessed—roulette and monte in full blast. Ladies are as deeply interested as the males, and some are heavy betters. It was a novel sight to some of the Shriners to witness, spread in piles upon the tables, forty to fifty thousand dollars in gold and silver. Refreshments *ad lib.* were served gratis to all. The games are conducted fairly and squarely, open and aboveboard. The government receives quite a revenue from these establishments. There is no pulling of bells, peeping through wickets, throwing down of chains and barricades and bars—no passwords necessary. Superintendent Byrnes has no terrors for the patrons here. The *fellar* who goes in and drops his five or ten dollars, and then goes bawling to the police to get it back, would have his labor for his trouble.

A few squares from this place a large gathering was witnessing a cock fight.

During our stay our entire party, ladies included, visited at his own private dwelling Grand Master M. W. Bro. Ermilo E. Canton, 33°. Bro. Agramonte, 33°, accompanied us, and made plain to us the words of welcome from the Grand Master, and also put to Spanish the thanks of the party expressed by Bros. Jas. McGee and Fred A. Spencer. The same evening the Masonic portion of the party, in full evening dress, visited the Benito Juarez Lodge, No. 3, over which the M. W. G. Master presides, and were received with addresses of welcome by the Master, Bro. Kellar, and others of the brethren. The responses of Bros. McGee, Millar, Spencer, Welton and others were interpreted by Bros. Kellar and Agramonte. Some of the brethren spoke fairly good English. Gen. Revierre, P. G. Master of San Luis Potosi, was present, having traveled some distance to be with us. The transacting of all business in the First Degree was a new departure for us; in following the language of the Master, we who did not understand Spanish could plainly discern in the ritualistic rendition the frequent reference to the Grand Architect of the Universe. After closing the lodge, all repaired to the banquet hall, where to the popping of the corks the Grand Lodges of the U. S. and Mexico, the Grand Masters, and every one of note absent and present were toasted.

The Consistory of A. and A. Scottish Rite conferred the Thirtieth Degree during our stay, and a number of our Scottish Rite brethre were in attendance, and are now dignified with the title of Honor

Members of the Consistory of the city of Mexico, and wear medals of honorary membership. Another pleasant call was upon American Minister Ryan, who with his good lady received us very graciously.

Our last day in the city was set apart for an audience with the President, Bro. Porfirio Diaz, 33°. We were received in his private room of the palace, and greeted very cordially in Spanish through an interpreter. Noble James McGee responded with thanks for the honor of the interview, introducing each male and female of the party, with whom the President shook hands and received their cards.

We witnessed several Mexican funerals. The hearse is a large, sombre-draped, open catafalque, upon a car drawn by mules upon the rails; following it in passenger cars, similar to our ordinary surface cars, are the mourners. They have several grades of these funeral (or hearse) cars, some larger and more elaborate than others; in one instance (evidently a poor person), the body was being borne to the tomb upon the shoulders of friends of the family, the mourners walking behind. All bodies are required to be consigned to the tomb within twenty-four hours after death. We visited the most prominent cemetery, where repose Mexico's most prominent heroes, and were favored by an inside view of the tomb of the George Washington of Mexico—ex-President Benito Juarez. That his memory is revered by his countrymen is evidenced by the liberal and constant donation to his tomb of fresh floral offerings; in some were the Masonic square and compasses.

The time was now approaching for our departure for home. All were more or less loaded with souvenirs of this ancient city—notably Doc Ellison, the relic and photo fiend; in addition to all else, he had secured from Noble Agramonte an old flint-lock miniature blunderbuss (which had done service in the Mexican wars), to do wall-decorative duty in the archives of Mecca Temple, at Scottish Rite Hall.

A large delegation of our newly made Mexican friends were at the depot to wish us a safe journey home, regretting that we could not longer remain. On our return journey through Mexico we traversed many places by daylight that we came through by night. In the afternoon of March 29 we reached the Rio Grande, entering the United States at Eagle Pass. The sight of the stars and stripes was quite pleasing to all. We were handed the following telegram: "Ben Hur Temple will meet you promptly. On arrival will have special train to take party to Austin's Great Dam. On return will go in carriages to Capitol, where the Governor of Texas and ladies of Ben Hur Shrine Temple will hold reception. After an inspection of Capitol building, will return to train at depot. We can do this in the two hours allotted to us."—Chas. T. Morse, Chairman. They did it just as they said they would, and a pleasanter or more gratifying stay we did

not have en route. We added a little time, for they deserved it. Just fancy, many of these ladies, in order to be at the Capitol from their residences, were compelled to arise at 5 A.M., and they got there, and a prettier lot of ladies we never met; and Governor Hogg—well, he is one of the people—great, big, healthy, good-natured gentleman; his welcome speech to us was jovial and happy, and we felt at home at once.

Our impressions of Texans are wonderfully changed. We saw no warlike, murderous weapons; we felt just as safe as though promenading Broadway. Their dam is a piece of work of which they are justly proud. Flowers in abundance were bestowed upon all, and our dining car was beautifully decorated with the floral gifts from the ladies of Ben Hur Temple, of Austin.

En route to Dallas the private car of the General Manager of the H. & T. R. R., Noble Quinlan, with this gentleman and Nobles Geo. H. Green (Potentate of Hella Temple), Robert Talfor, and a committee from Hella Temple, of Dallas, was tacked on to our train, and acted as convoy to us into the city, where the Nobles of Hella, in full dress and fez, with band arrayed in Arab costume, were in waiting at the depot with carriages. We were driven through the city and to the Masonic Temple, where the ladies of Hella Temple's members were gathered to receive us, and all were made to feel at home at once. Potentate Green and Mayor Connor made us welcome with pleasant, short speeches, presenting us with a welcome to Hella and the freedom of the city of Dallas, Texas, accompanying same with a massive golden key with Shrine emblems on the handle. Our orators, as long as short speeches were the order, were at home.

An excellent programme, literary and musical, had been prepared to entertain us, in addition to dancing, and a banquet which was presided over by the ladies of Hella's Nobles. There was no formality; it was solid home friendship. After we had been there about half an hour, were a stranger to pop in unawares, he would have imagined all had been acquainted for years. The decoration of the room was elegant; it was a bower of flowers and plants, orange blossoms, roses, and bunting; in incandescent lights were the words "Welcome to Mecca;" beautiful ribbon badges, neatly engraved and printed "Mecca, Welcome to Oasis of Dallas," were presented to each pilgrim. Here is where we could, in a measure, even up by bestowing our much sought after oxidized silver pilgrimage badge in return. At 10.30 we started for Hot Springs, Ark., where we arrived about four hours late, a freight train having broken down ahead of us. A wrecking train soon came along, and we sped onward. The Shriners at Hot Springs anticipated our coming by issuing the following notice: "Members of all and any Temples visiting Hot Springs are invited to

attend a meeting at the Arlington Hotel, Thursday, March 30, 1893, at 12 noon. This meeting is to make arrangements for the reception of Mecca Temple, of New York."

They did it up brown. Carriages for the ladies, band, and parade through the town to the New Arlington Hotel, where we were accorded the freedom of the house and baths, together with a magnificent banquet, served in the large banquet hall of the hotel. Proprietor T L. Hay and his good lady were as deeply interested in our comfort and entertainment as were the committee of Shriners. Each of the party was the recipient of a beautiful ribbon badge, attached to which was a rabbit's foot, accompanied by a small printed circular, reading as follows: "The Mascot--Left hind foot of a rabbit, killed in a graveyard at midnight, during the dark of the moon, on the 13th day of the month, by a cross-eyed, left-handed, red-headed man, riding a white horse. Warranted to cure anything."

The following morning, Saturday, April 1, we crossed the great bridge which spans the mighty Mississippi, and arrived in the city of Memphis, the oasis of Al Chymia Temple, who hospitably and splendidly received and entertained us in instructive sightseeing. In carriages we visited a cotton compress. We then inspected pretty thoroughly the Planters' Oil Mill, where the oil is extracted from the cotton seed; also the Merchants' and Cotton Exchanges. In the latter place we saw the entire cotton exhibits, all grades, prepared for the World's Fair at Chicago. At the Athletic Club House we were dined, and at the home of Colonel Porter we were wined and pleasantly entertained by this hospitable old gentleman, who has done much for this city.

Sunday morning, at six, we arrived at Glasgow Junction, where we were joined by a committee of nine from Kosair Temple, of Louisville, Kentucky, headed by Noble Wm. (Daddy) Ryan and his good lady, who escorted us through the famous Mammoth Cave of Kentucky. They remained with us during the entire day, turning us over to the tender care of the balance of the membership of that hospitable Temple, in Louisville, in the afternoon; they favored us with a pretty thorough view of their beautiful city, which the party voted the cleanest and prettiest in the country. At the Galt House we were banqueted, and in all our experience of hotels throughout the land—and it has not been small—we concede the palm to this house for excellence of menu and promptness of service combined. In the evening a treat was in store for us—a visit to the Masonic Orphans' Home of Kentucky—crystallized Masonry, Noble Daddy Ryan terms it. This was one of the pleasantest evenings of our entire pilgrimage. It was Easter—a printed programme had been arranged for our coming by the children; interspersed between songs by the children were short talks by Mecca Pilgrims. It was a grand sight; over one

hundred neatly clad children, all healthy, happy, and cheerful ; not a death in the Home in eight years. The cost per capita annually is but $505. Past Grand Master Campbell H. Johnson is superintendent, and he is the right man in the right place ; the children all love him. To Nobles Millar, McGee, Spencer, Hartley, Wilson, Hill, and Mr. David M. Reed were assigned the short talks. The singing by the children was excellent.

Monday afternoon, April 3, we reached Pittsburg, where Deputy Imperial Potentate and the present Potentate of Syria Temple, Noble Thomas Hudson, was on hand with carriages, which conveyed the party over the bridge to witness the glass works in full blast, after which the east end of the city, with its elegant residences, was inspected, and the ladies presented on behalf of Syria Temple with bouquets of choice flowers. In the evening many availed themselves of the kindly invitation of Noble Edwin Price, manager of Clara Morris's Company, at the Alvin Theatre, the property of Noble Charles L. Davis ; both these gentlemen are members of Mecca Temple. Bright and early Tuesday morning we arrived in Washington, and were met by Potentate Harrison Dingman and a delegation of Almas Temple, with private equipages, and every thing and place of note in the Capitol City was shown up to view. The Washington Monument, Treasury, silver vaults, bond room—some few of us were permitted to be millionaires for a few moments only—the East room of the White House ; a special Cabinet meeting prevented an audience with the President.

At Faber's a substantial banquet was served between the liquid sips, with Noble Dingman as toastmaster (a position, by the bye, he graciously fills). There were addresses of welcome by him and Noble George H. Walker (the new bridegroom). Nobles McGee, Millar, Bissinger, Welton, Spencer, Beecher, and Mr. Reed held up the pilgrim end pretty well, and were lavish in their praises for the courtesies extended and the goodly feeling existing and engendered by this visit. All were unanimous that there was but one Washington and one H. D. The Mexican salutation, hand shake, and hug were fully exemplified and communicated to all. At our departure all were loath to leave. We bid adieu to Almas Nobles and the Capitol City, and pulled into Jersey City promptly on schedule time, all heartily well pleased with our pilgrimage to Mexico.

1893.—May 17, Bridgeport, Conn.—A delegation of Mecca Temple, headed by Chief Rabban Charles A. Benedict, visited Pyramid Temple, paraded, and participated in conferring the degree. The visiting Nobles returned to New York late in the evening, after a pleasant sojourn.

1893.—May 29–30, Washington, D. C.—About thirty of Mecca Nobles made a pilgrimage to Almas Temple, and witnessed the excellent work as performed by the efficient officers of this successful Temple. The trip was exceedingly enjoyable.

1893.—June 10–14, Cincinnati.—Annual session of the Imperial Council.—Mecca representatives, Geo. W. Millar, James McGee, S. R. Ellison, M.D., Joseph B. Eakins, Walter M. Fleming, M.D., together with the representatives of Palestine Temple, of Providence, R. I.; Kismet, of Brooklyn; Lu Lu, of Philadelphia; Cypress, of Albany; Pyramid, of Bridgeport, and Boumi, of Baltimore, in special car over the B. &. O. R. R. to Cincinnati, attended the annual Imperial session, and participated in the festivities. The parade, illuminations, decorations, etc., were magnificent. Every moment of time was mapped out with some form of entertainment. Reception by the various Temples at their hotels in the evening was the order.

1893.—Sept. 13, Chicago, World's Fair.—Individuals and organizations of every nature were booked for this grand show. Of course Mecca would not take a back seat. A party of pilgrims and pilgrimesses, to the number of nearly a hundred and fifty, made a very pleasant pilgrimage to the Windy City, consumed ten days very pleasantly, and what that party missed of the big show did not amount to much. The Fair has been so elaborately written up and heralded through the press of the country, therefore no necessity for further eulogizing this grand affair.

Whilst in Chicago, Medinah Temple held a session, and Mecca Nobles visited, witnessed, and enjoyed the conferring of the degree. The following were of the party: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. W. Millar, Mr. and Mrs. John J. Brogan and son, James McGee and Misses Edith and Sarah McGee, S. R. Ellison, M.D., and Mrs. Ellison, Burt Hall, Wm. Hall, Mrs. John W. Sisson, Miss Grace Williams, Miss Millie Strathman, Miss Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Marsh, Chas. A. Maurice, J. S. Mundy, Mr. and Mrs. R. Ficken and daughter, H. S. Cowen, N. Dailey, Fred. A. Spencer, J. E. Warner, Miss Lucy Warner, John W. Mapes, A. Mapes, Mrs. J. W. Carpenter and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H. K. S. Williams, Mrs. William Grover, Miss Emma Nesbitt, Arthur C. Bernd, Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Barr, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Cowen, Wm. A. Cole, J. T. Smith, Wm. Homan, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace H. Van Doorn, J. N. Wait, H. Guy Weaver, Wm. A. Jewell, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Kosmak and son, Mrs. N. Crusius, Mrs. S. Taylor, Dewitt C. Bradley, Miss Mary Bennett, Rev. C. L. Twing, H. G. Walters, Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Tracey, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Smith, R. M. Jones, W. R. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Henderson, J. D. Jennings and mother, Miss N. A. Hubbell, Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Whiting, John H. Post, Wm. C. Mueller, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Belcher, Miss J. Belcher and Mrs. H. A. Schwartz, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Armstrong & Son, Miss Florence Little, Ed. Frazer, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Parker, Robt. Markman, Chas. Baus, H. M. Bernard, Paul Micolino, Dr. and Mrs. E. J. Sarlabous, William Heller, Mr. and Mrs. Th. J.

Scharfenberg and daughter, James Kirker, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Ryan, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Wallace and son, Col. and Mrs. W. J. Leavenworth, B. I. Mott, C. J. Scheteling, J. R. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Abram Hilton and daughter, Jos. V. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Bresnan, Mr. and Mrs. John Quincey, Miss Alice Judson, Miss Georgie Wilcoxson, L. E. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fish, Mr. and Mrs. John Petrie, H. D. Downs, C. B. Allston, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. E. Blohm, A. H. Kellogg, Alfred Winfield, Mr. and Mrs. David Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. E. Somers and daughter, Mrs. H. Hicks, Mrs. Ida Wood, W. P. Webster, Charles H. Heyzer, Mrs. E. N. Fiske, Miss Armstrong, John C. Shelton, C. Christie.

July 19–30, 1894.—Denver, Colorado.—Preparations had been made months in advance for a large party and an extended trip, covering fifteen days, visiting the cities of Minneapolis, St. Paul, Milwaukee, Sioux City, Waukesha Springs, in addition to Chicago, Cedar Rapids, etc. Courteous invitations had been received from Temples at all the foregoing oases to halt, partake of hospitalities, and view their beautiful cities. The Pullman and Railroad strike which prevailed blocked travel, and the Railroad Companies in the dilemma could not guarantee to deliver parties to distant terminal points; added to this, the rumor that the Session of the Imperial Council, which was to be held in Denver, July 24 and 25, might possibly be postponed to a later date, by reason of the Railroad strike, caused the calling off of the pilgrimage and return of installments to the one hundred and odd who were booked for it. There being somewhat of a let up in the strike, and the announcement by Imperial Potentate Thos. J. Hudson that the date or location of the Session would not be postponed, the following made up the party, who in the Special Wagner Car "Cloverdale" made the enjoyable pilgrimage: Geo. W. Millar, James McGee, S. R. Ellison and J. B. Eakins, Representatives of Mecca Temple to the Imperial Council; Thos. J. Bishop, Cyprus Temple, Albany; Thad. B. Beecher, J. W. Knowlton and David Alling, Pyramid, Bridgeport; H. K. Blanchard, Palestine, Providence, R. I.; Dr. Finder and John Horacks, Oriental, Troy; Henry Collins, Rameses, Toronto, Canada; Joseph S. Wright, Ed. B. Jordan, Fred. Leibrandt, and Charles Cary, Lu Lu, Philadelphia; W. L. Wenisch, F. L. Wenisch, Kismet, Brooklyn; A. Hilton and wife, Oriental; E. B. Bemis, M.D., Mecca, N. Y.; Wm. Eakins, Misses Edith and Sarah McGee, and Miss Florence Little. The car was attached to the limited leaving the Grand Central Depot at 1 P.M., arriving in Chicago the following day at 2 P.M. Medinah's Nobles as a committee met the train, escorting the Nobles to the Club Rooms in Medinah Temple's new building, where open house prevailed. The ladies were taken to the Briggs Hotel, where a committee of ladies were in waiting, headed by the

daughters of Noble Wm. M. Knight, Medinah's Potentate, and host of the hotel. Carriage and tallyho rides about the city, and theatre party in the evening, kept the pilgrims pretty well entertained until midnight, when the Special Train of Shriners was made up, consisting of Mecca's car and six more Wagner Sleeping Coaches, containing Buffalo, Pittsburg, Cleveland, Chicago, etc., Nobles and Ladies. Shortly after twelve o'clock the train moved westward. Saturday morning we halted at Cedar Rapids, where El Kahir Temple were at the depot, with a Military Band, to meet and escort us to the Hotel as the resident Nobles' guests, where was prepared a special breakfast. Potentate Noble Cyrus Eaton was especially attentive to all the visitors. After the breakfast, the lines were formed, and a short parade brought the party to the famous Iowa State Masonic Library, presided over by the venerable Noble T. H. Parvin. The building and its contents were closely scrutinized by all, and it was voted the cleanest, neatest, and most compact collection in the country. We bid adieu to our hospitable Cedar Rapids fraters, and sped on toward the setting sun, halting to refresh the inner man at our trysting-place of two years ago—the Millard Hotel, Omaha. On Sunday afternoon we arrived at Denver, where the Reception Committee met and escorted us to the Windsor Hotel, where we were elegantly housed for the week. The manager, Mr. C. M. Hill, conjured his brain for everything that would make it pleasant for us during our stay, the various menus of each meal being works of art—gotten up for our especial benefit—emblematic of the Shrine. It is rare to find a manager who gave so much of his time to his guests' comfort and pleasure. The room service and table were excellent, and it was so voted at the final banquet given before leaving the hotel. The time in Denver was variously occupied. Rides about the city, receptions at the two hotels, side trips to the *Loop*, Georgetown, Leadville, Colorado Springs, Manitou, Garden of the Gods, Pike's Peak, etc. Of course those who were Representatives to the Imperial Council were deeply interested by night and day with the affairs of State until the evening of Wednesday, 25th, when the session closed. Thursday, after breakfast, Mecca's car was boarded, and the special trip to Colorado Springs and Manitou was made, and the party fought shy of *Barker's Hotel.* They gave it the go-by, and domiciled at the Iron Springs Hotel, opposite the depot of the Cog Railway, which rises to the top of Pike's Peak. This hotel is presided over by Mr. Weir and his good lady, and the party were specially fortunate in being located here, for the cuisine and rooms were excellent, and the manager very attentive to our every want. Through the kindness of Mr. John Hulbert, President of the Pike's Peak R. R. (a personal friend of Noble Geo. W. Millar), our party was treated to a special trip up the mountain at sunset—overcoats being supplied to those who were not provided. Whilst our friends East were sweltering with the thermo-

meter in the nineties, we were indulging in winter sports of snowballing. The wind was quite brisk and the air very light. Friday was devoted to inspecting the rare rock formations in the famous Garden of the Gods, etc. We started homeward in the afternoon, halting for supper at the Windsor Hotel, Denver. In passing through Nebraska, we saw evidences of the intense hot spell that had pervaded the country in the burnt and parched condition of the growing corn, and at Bell Plaine we were detained several hours in consequence of the total destruction of the place by fire. We passed through ruins on both sides of us, nothing but remnants of the walls of what was but a few hours before a flourishing city.

At Chicago our car was attached to the limited Express of the Lake Shore and N. Y. Central, leaving at 5.30 P.M., and promptly on time to the minute of 6.30 P.M., Monday, we rolled into the Grand Central Depot. Home again, adding another successful pilgrimage to Mecca's history. What other organization in our land has afforded its membership such a practical geographical knowledge of our country, and under such favorable auspices?

SHRINE FAMILY THEATRE PARTIES.

In the early years of the history of the Order the entire time of the active spirits was engrossed with plans for its establishment upon a solid basis, night and day were brain taxed, and new developments were the result. The business detail became simplified, as did the conferring of the work. The organization had now come to stay. The active element sought pastures new to interest and endear the Order not alone to all directly concerned, but to the families of the membership, by bringing them into closer communion and better acquaintanceship. In the latter part of 1884 a committee, consisting of Nobles T. Allston Brown, Antonio Pastor, Joseph B. Eakins, George W. Millar, and James McGee, was appointed to arrange an entertainment for the membership and their families. A magnificent programme and an exceedingly enjoyable evening were the result of their labors. Nobles Tony Pastor and Col. T. Allston Brown secured the long array of talent, who kindly volunteered their services, and the detail of the occasion was looked after by the balance of the committee.

Dec. 19, 1884, Friday evening, was the date of the affair. The Grand Lodge Room of the Masonic Hall was engaged. The audience was limited to Shriners and their ladies. All the ladies upon entering partook of the Arabian bond of secrecy, and were presented with a solid silver souvenir Shrine Pin. The hall was filled. The officers elect were installed, in full costume, by Noble John F. Collins. This was the first occasion when the elaborate new robes of the Order had been displayed to public gaze. Noble Jerome Buck made the opening address, in his customary able man-



"OUR GIRLS."—W. D. MAY, CHIEF SCHERIF.

ner, introducing considerable humor. Amongst the entertainers of the evening were the great Yelsaeb (Beasley) in a musical mélange; Al Pearsall, the humorist; Mr. Leo, musical glasses; Miss Harriet Webb, reader; Miss Henrietta Markstein, pianist; Chas. Pratt, accompanist; Miss Ada Richmond, Ramirez Spanish Troubadours, Noble Tony Pastor, Anna Teresa Berger, cornet soloist; Mr. D. R. Hercat, ventriloquist; Noble Thos. J. Leigh, recitation; Mrs. McCourt and Miss Anna Maxwell Brown, soprani; Noble Frank Weston, Miss Effie Ellsler, Arcadian Quartet; humorous character sketches, George Kole; Rubie Brooks and George Powers, banjo duet; Noble Alessandro Liberati, cornet solo.

From the foregoing array of talent, all of whom appeared, it can readily be understood why the occasion was appreciated by all present.

An Arabian banquet of bread and dates was served.

The initial entertainment of Mecca Temple did more to place our Order in a better light with the female home guard, remove the Sons of Malta insinuations that had become rife, and show us to the world as an unselfish social band of jolly good people, who loved fun and humor without vulgarity.

The many enjoyable affairs up to date, not alone of Mecca Temple, but the Order throughout the land, have given us the reputation of entertainers of the first water (*i.e.*, Kismet Punch, Camel's Milk and Zemzem Waters, Artillery Punch). Ours is the universal social club of the country, and the only one (all others are local). Go where you may throughout the entire length and breadth of this land, and there is always a welcome for a Shriner.

Monday evening, June 15, 1885, Nobles Wm. J. Florence, Tony Pastor, Gus Williams, George Thatcher, Wm. Rice, Henry S. Sanderson, Charles T. White, Frank Weston, Col. T. Allston Brown, Bensen Sherwood, George Herbert, and Chas. L. Davis, members of Mecca Temple and dramatic profession, tendered a testimonial entertainment in aid of the Emergent Reserve Fund, at the Academy of Music. This was a financial success and a pleasant evening. In addition to the above, the following volunteered their services: Ed. Knowles, Robert Mantell, Walter Tessler, C. E. Collins, and A. Shotwell; Miss H. Markstein, Gus Phillips, Frank McNish, Little Bertie Boswell, Miss Effie Ellsler, Frank Mayo, Miss Verona Jarbeau, Geo. Knight, Miss Harriet Webb, Henry T. Bryant, D. W. Robertson, and others. In addition to "The Old Kentucky Home," the second act of "Capt. Mischler" was rendered, Noble Gus Williams traveling from Michigan to be present and take part.

Monday evening, February 28, 1887, at Chickering Hall, was the next entertainment tendered to the ladies. Nobles Tony Pastor, H. S. Sanderson, Samuel Edwards, Simmonds and Brown, and J. Chas. Davis secured

an elegant array of talent for this occasion. There were the Martens Tyroleans, Miss Mabel Stephenson, D. H. Haskins, Miss Linda da Costa, Ricco Venetian Mandolin Quartet, Frank Bush, Miss Hattie Anderson, P. C. Shortis and Mamie Leonard, Mrs. Kate De Jonge Levett, A. E. Pearsall, Mr. Morris Phillips, Palaske Bros., Rudolph Terry, Nat Goodwin, and A. Liberati, and the following crayon artists: Mr. H. A. Thomas, George A. Hallen, Charles Graham, John Durkey, Mr. Gillam. We mention the foregoing list of performers particularly for the reason that their services were gratuitously tendered through the influence of our able committee, all of whom are well known in the theatrical profession, and who have always been ready and willing to aid us with their own and brother and sister professionals' services whenever called upon. Mecca's Roster is rich with the names of gentlemen high in the dramatic art.

Wednesday evening, October 31, 1888, we began our series of regular Daughters of Isis, or Ladies' Nights, and continued them up to the present, averaging five or six each year, varying the entertainment. Occasionally an evening is set apart for initiating the ladies as Daughters of Isis. This ceremony is short and very much enjoyed. Following the initiation is a musical and literary entertainment by those prominent in their rôles. Dancing and refreshments monopolize the balance of the evening until twelve o'clock, the closing hour. At many of these affairs the ladies have been the recipients of valuable souvenirs.

In addition to many of the ladies and gentlemen whose names are mentioned above as having been present and entertained, here are a few more of those who have entertained us on Ladies' Nights: Miss Camille d'Arville, Noble Fred. Solomon, Maurice Barrymore, Harry and John Kernell, Fonti Boni Brothers, Steele Mackaye, Prof. L. Berge, Geo. W. Morgan, Miss Maud Morgan, The Hungarian Band, Sam Dearin, Miss Mabel Stillman (Whistling Patti), E. J. Rice, Wood & Shepard, Sam Collins and Vinnie Henshaw, Henry Peakes, Alonzo Hatch, Jenny O'Neill Potter, etc.

Friday, May 6, 1892.—Noble J. S. Mundy, of Mecca, gave a stereopticon exhibition, illustrating Mecca's Grand Pilgrimage to the Pacific Coast, with many magnificent views of Yellowstone Park and Rocky Mountains through Colorado. A small charge was exacted, and the results were donated to the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee of the Masonic Home of the city of Richmond, Virginia.

OUR INITIAL THEATRE PARTY.

Theatre parties on a large scale were not original with Mecca Temple, for the Seventh Regiment, Produce Exchange, and kindred organizations had occasionally resorted to this means of enjoying an evening, but they invariably went "*en stag*," and, in addition to the stage performance, jollied and guyed the actors and actresses in the play, as well as poked fun

among their own party. Mecca's new departure was to attend in large numbers in full dress, fez and claws, accompanied by their ladies, making the occasion more select and enjoyable. The first or inaugural theatre party of Mecca Temple was to honor one of her membership to whom they felt obligated. The following clipping from the Masonic columns of the *Sunday Dispatch*, of Sunday, January 25, 1885, pretty thoroughly explains the situation:

1885.—Monday, January 19.—COMPLIMENTARY VISIT.—Bro. Antonio Pastor, 32° and K. T., familiarly known as "Tony Pastor," whose charitable hand is ever outstretched to aid the needy, always ready to assist with his own and the services of his artists any charitable call, was unceremoniously "bearded in his lair" on Monday evening last. Every seat and box was taken in advance by a delegation of gentlemen in full evening dress, accompanied by their ladies. The gents were Nobles of Mecca Temple, Order of the Mystic Shrine, of which Noble Tony is a member. The object of this surprise visit was a new and novel scheme to thank him for valuable aid rendered at their installation ceremonies, held in the Grand Lodge Room of the Masonic Temple. The whole matter was kept secret from Tony by Noble James McGee and Noble Harry Sanderson, Tony's efficient business manager. As each ticket was disposed of the recipient was bound over to secrecy.

Hundreds were turned away from the box office with the response, "Not a seat to be had—not even standing room." The programme was an exceptionally good one, keeping the house in continuous roars. A very neat souvenir programme, in colors emblematic of the Mystic Shrine, was presented by Noble Sanderson. Just previous to Tony's entrance for his singing act, every Noble in the audience donned his red fez. When he faced the audience the orchestra struck up "The Arabic Patrol," composed expressly for the occasion by Noble Alessandro Liberati, and dedicated to the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. It was the first intimation he had who had laid siege to his castle. Imagine his surprise when he looked forth, ejaculating, "Has anything gone wrong?" He sang, and was encored three times, the last song being his well-known melody styled "Not Much," and retired. Again he was encored, on appearing to acknowledge which, with his pleasant bow, he was greeted by the reveille from the centre of the audience, Ill. Noble Alessandro Liberati, the great cornetist, arising in his seat, decked with his red fez.

The call brought forth from the opposite side of the stage Dr. Walter M. Fleming, Imperial Potentate of the United States, who, on behalf of Mecca Temple, presented Noble Pastor with a magnificent crescent, formed of the two thumbnails or claws of the royal Bengal tiger, joined at their base by a band of gold, emblematic of the Order, suspended from which was

an elegant Maltese cross, together with a double-headed eagle, the bar being a beautiful scimitar. The jewel is a combination of emblems of Blue Lodge, Chapter, Commandery, Scottish Rite, and Order of the Mystic Shrine. Dr. Fleming said:

"I am delegated by the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine to present you this little token of their regard, and their grateful appreciation of your interest in the Order, and your efforts in behalf of every deserving charity. They are aware of acts of benevolence which you have performed in private, so accordant with the spirit of the Order, and the sons of the desert and disciples of the Shrine invest you here with the bonnet of their Temple, and offer you a badge to distinguish you in their worship as their only Pastor."

Ill. Bro. Pastor, somewhat confused at the change made in the "bill," gave expression to his feelings as follows:

"This, Ill. Sir, has taken me so much by surprise—in fact, this evening's series of surprises has completely carried off my powers of speech, leaving me utterly unable to find words to respond to your kind and cheering remarks. This, indeed, is the proudest moment of my life—although this is an old stereotype expression, yet, in my case, it comes from the heart, I assure you. I really know not what to say to thank you all, except call upon me when and where you will, and I am at your service. Excuse my disconnected sentences; attribute them to my dilemma—a circumstance that has never occurred to me in the many (and they are many) years I have been upon the stage. I am a much better singer than a speaker——"

Here the remarks were cut short by the orchestral leader introducing the title of the last song he sang, "Not Much!"

Two beautiful floral emblems, representing a scimitar and a crescent, were also presented to Mrs. Tony Pastor and Mrs. Col. T. Allston Brown. The performance over, Tony met and received the congratulations of all as they passed out of the theatre. A pleasanter evening has rarely been spent; the ladies expressed themselves more than pleased. This is only one of the many novel means resorted to by the Shriners to bring their families in closer communion, to enable the wives and sweethearts to compare notes about tales that are unfolded on return from Shrine.

1886.—Tuesday evening, April 13.—Second Theatre Party.—It was Shrine night at Noble Tony Pastor's. To say it was a full house does not express it, and they were all Shriners and their ladies. If the house had been twice as large, they would have filled it. The membership came from all parts, Norwich, Bridgeport and Hartford, Conn., Newark, Elizabeth, Paterson, New Brunswick, etc., N. J., as well as from up the river towns. Everybody knew everybody; there was an air of social gathering about the affair. It was an exceptionally fine programme. Noble Tony's appearance

was the signal for continuous applause, when he sang from his budget of songs one dedicated to the Shriners, telling what a horrid ordeal he was compelled to go through before he become a full-fledged Shriner, and portraying characteristics of prominent Shriners, and finally commending the Order for its many noble deeds of charity. Upon Noble Tony's recall he requested the appearance upon the stage of Noble Charles T. McClenachan, to whom he proffered his own and company's service when required, and at the same time he handed a check for fifty dollars as the start of a subscription for the Masonic Orphan Asylum. The hint was immediately followed by subscriptions ranging from two dollars to one hundred in rapid succession from all parts of the house. Each name as announced received rounds of applause. In less than ten minutes nearly one thousand dollars was raised. At the conclusion he called for Noble James McGee, and presented him with a beautiful locket, inclosing a portrait of Noble Tony, inscribed on one side, and a large initial "M" on the reverse side set with diamonds. Noble McGee was unprepared for this surprise, and in a few words thanked Noble Pastor for the generous present. The performance was then continued to the end; every one received a neat souvenir programme, with a Shrine badge. This was a happy evening for all. We have given the foregoing two theatre parties rather more full than the balance, because of the importance attached to them—the first as the inaugural, and the second because of it being the occasion of the subscription to the Masonic Orphan Asylum, which Noble Frank R. Lawrence has been so instrumental in pushing to a completion. After these two successful theatre parties they became regular features with Mecca's Nobles. We, therefore, simply note them in their order:

1886.—December 10.—Noble Gus Williams was honored with a large Shrine party at Noble Henry C. Miner's People's Theatre, and was presented with a large and handsome pair of jeweled Tiger Claws.

1886.—December 24.—Noble J. Charles Davis was also surprised at the same house.

1887.—March 17.—To Noble Wm. J. Florence, at Noble Edward Knowles' Grand Opera House, Brooklyn, N. Y. "Dombey & Son."

1887.—March 22.—To Noble Col. T. Allston Brown, at The People's Theatre, New York.

1887.—April 7.—Annual Shrine Night at Noble Tony Pastor's.

1887.—April 30.—To Noble Nat. C. Goodwin, at Noble J. Wesley Rosenquest's Bijou Theatre. This was a gala night. The house had been reserved. The ladies went to the theatre. The Nobles assembled at the Temple at 7 P. M., conferred the Order upon twenty candidates, and, with Noble Liberati's Band of fifty pieces, marched to the theatre. At the completion of the performance all (ladies and band included) marched back

to the Temple, where a collation was served. Noble Goodwin was the recipient of a handsome Shrine jewel from his friends.

1888.—February 20.—To Noble Nat. Goodwin, at Noble J. W. Rosenquest's Fourteenth Street Theatre.

1888.—March 1.—To Noble Gus Williams, at Noble Josh Hart's Harlem Comique Theatre.

1888.—March 29.—To Noble Tony Pastor's.

1888.—April 3.—To Noble H. C. Miner's Newark Theatre, to welcome the father of Noble J. K. Emmet, Jr.

1888.—September 3.—To Noble Roland Reed, at the Bijou, in "The Woman Hater."

1888.—December 20.—To Noble Edwin H. Price's Lee Avenue Academy of Music, Brooklyn. "The Legal Wreck."

1889.—March 4.—Fourteenth Street Theatre. "Drifting Apart." Under management of Noble Edwin H. Price.

1889.—March 14.—To Noble J. C. Davis, at People's Theatre.

1889.—March 26.—To Effie Ellsler and Noble Frank Weston, at the People's Theatre. "The Governess."

1889.—April 25.—To Noble Nat. Goodwin, in "The Gold Mine," at Noble H. C. Miner's Fifth Avenue Theatre.

1890.—March 10.—The Casino. Miss Lillian Russell, Noble Max Freeman and H. Hallam. "Grande Duchesse."

1890.—April 10.—To Effie Ellsler and Noble Frank Weston, at the People's Theatre. "Woman against Woman."

1890.—June 21.—Monday.—Noble Nat. C. Goodwin. The Grand Opera House.

1890.—August 7.—As guests of Islam Temple, San Francisco, Cal. The California Theatre. "The City Directory."

1891.—January 20.—Bijou Theatre. "Texas Steer." Noble Chas. W. Thomas (Hoyt & Thomas). Supper served at Scottish Rite Hall after performance.

1892.—To Noble Neil Burgess, at Proctor's Theatre.

1892.—November 10.—Broadway Theatre. Noble De Wolf Hopper in "The Lady and the Tiger."

1893.—Noble Fred. Solomon's Comic Opera Company, in "Poor Jonathan," at Paterson Opera House, N. J. Resident Nobles and a party of Mecca from New York.

1893.—April 3.—Alvin Theatre (Noble Chas. L. Davis' Theatre), Pittsburg, Pa. Miss Clara Morris, under management of Noble Edwin H. Price. Nobles of Mecca returning from pilgrimage to Mexico.

1894.—Friday, February 23.—The Casino. Miss Camille d'Arville in "Prince Kam; or, A Trip to Venus."

1894.—Saturday, March 31.—Harrigan's Theatre. Noble Fred. Solomon in "Princesse Trebizonde," with Pauline Hall Opera Company.

1894.—Thursday, June 7.—Buffalo Bill's Wild West Exhibition at Ambrose Park, South Brooklyn. Upwards of twenty-five hundred Nobles and ladies attended. It was a magnificent tribute to Nobles Wm. F. Cody, Nate Salsbury, Jule Keen and A. E. Sheible, of Mecca Temple.

MECCA'S CHILDREN'S MATINEE.

Saturday afternoon, February 25, 1893, was inaugurated the Annual Matinée to the little ones at Scottish Rite Hall. The matter of talent was intrusted to Noble Tony Pastor. None better could have been selected, for he produced a programme every act of which was appreciated and enjoyed by them. Of the entertainers there were Layman, the man of a thousand faces; Delhauer, the man-frog; Sam Dearin, in a comic musical act; the Hengler Sisters, exquisite songsters and dancers; Martyne, ventriloquist, humorist, etc.; O'Brien & Havel, newsboy's courtship; Prof. Hampton and his trained dogs; Little Venie Daly, danseuse; Miss Mabel Stephenson, the vocal artist; concluding with Murray's Magic Lantern Phantasma Gloria. Ice-cream, cake, and lemonade plenteously served to all brought to a happy close the first Shriners' Children's Matinée of Mecca Temple. Mecca's official staff were on hand, acting as ushers, and looked after the children's wants.

Saturday afternoon, March 24, 1894, agreeably to many urgent requests on behalf of the Nobles, the success of last year was duplicated. Like a certain largely advertised patent medicine, the children cry for it. Again Noble Tony Pastor was called on, and as willingly gave his valuable services. There were Monsieur D'Alvini, magician; Winsman, the man-flute; Signor Russell, comic juggler; the Little Hengler Sisters, the Brunelles, Lilliputians; Delhauer, man-frog; John and Nelly McCarthy, songs; Mlle. Isabella Carlini, with her troupe of dogs and monkeys; and Pictorial Display, "Trip to the World's Fair." Each child, on entering Scottish Rite Hall, was presented with a souvenir *chestnut*, inclosing a neat red fez. It was rather a pretty sight to see the little heads uniformly covered with the Shrine fez. Refreshments in abundance were freely served to all at the termination of the programme.

OUR RECEPTIONS AND CARNIVALS.

1893.—January 26.—Entire Madison Square Garden.—This date inaugurated our series of receptions. Started in response to the continuous requests of the Nobles, who felt that an organization like Mecca Temple, with a membership of nigh on to twenty-five hundred jolly sons of the

desert, and which has no written or unwritten law against dancing, should have one of the social events of the season, where the select of the outside world could mingle with us in the mazy waltz, and regret that they are not of us.

The plan of entertainment was original with us. It was a grand combination, arranged to suit every taste. There was a grand concert by Noble Fred. Innes' band, followed by the entrée of the uniformly attired committees, then dancing up to midnight, when the floor was cleared for the Carnival, of specially engaged talent, under the management of Noble Fred. Solomon. At the conclusion of the Carnival dancing was resumed and continued until morning.

In point of numbers present, decoration, Carnival, respectability, and, in fact, in every particular, it was voted by participants and the public press the grandest success of the season.

Nearly $20,000 was expended, which all came back with a good size surplus, proving it to have been a financial success.

The occasion was honored by those high in authority, in civic and military walks, as well as those of prominence in the Order, from all parts of the country.

1894.—January 15.—The second reception was also held at Madison Square Garden, the entire building, with its concert hall and many smaller rooms, being all called into requisition, as at our Reception and Carnival of 1893. Noble Fred. Innes supplied the music for concert, promenade and dancing, and Noble Fred. Solomon arranged and superintended the production of the Carnival, which differed from last year's. In addition to the Carnival, a realistic scene from Arab life was portrayed upon the large, raised platform at the east end of the Garden. Professor Bro. Arbeely, a Syrian, arranged and conducted this portion of the programme.

The panicky times and a stormy night caused no diminution in the ardor or success of this affair. The financial result reached about the same as the first year's reception. A balance to the good for the entertainment fund.

Mecca's Annual Reception is now a fixed fact, come to stay as one of the annual social events of the season.

We here give space to the following article, from the pen of a prominent lady writer, giving her impressions of our first Reception :

A WOMAN'S VIEW OF THE MYSTIC SHRINE BALL.

Like a glimpse of the Arabian Nights, a dream of the Orient, a page from Lalla Rookh, was that beautiful scene, with its blaze of color and light, its flashing of gems, its flowers, its perfumes, its picturesque processions, its spectacular features, its music and mysticism.

The symbols of the East—the scimitar, the crescent, the Sphinx, the palms, the tents of the faithful—mingled with nineteenth century gowns, diamonds and music! Was there ever a more fascinating and varied *mélange?* One knew not which way to look or what to most admire—the superbly artistic decorations, the divine music, the diverting Carnival, the beautiful women, or the handsome men.

For myself, I say the latter. I had always heard that the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine were a particularly fine looking lot of fellows, and I must say that, when they marched out into the Garden, clad in the attractive combination costume of Madison Square and Mecca, correct dress suit and barbaric fez, I, in common with all the other women, was lost in admiration. As for that stately and magnificent figure which moved through the crowd of adoring subjects, let me tell you that King Solomon in all his glory was not in it with the Grand Potentate.

And when the dancing began, and the pink, blue, violet and yellow gowns fluttered about with the scarlet fezes—is there such a word ?—bobbing above them, was it not like looking at a great, glowing flower garden, crowded with sweetpeas, forget-me-nots, lilacs and daffodils, mingling everywhere with scarlet poppies ? Or was it a kaleidoscope, with its infinite variety of scintillating, glittering, sparkling colors and symmetrical forms, that was shaken out upon the polished floor ?

Never was there such inviting, alluring music. Small wonder that to such entrancing strains the graceful women floated like butterflies, or that the dashing Nobles frisked like mettlesome Arabian steeds.

Of course, we women were all agog with curiosity over the Carnival, of which such glowing things were promised, and could scarcely restrain our impatience until the sons of the desert came marching in. I was woefully disappointed not to see them traverse the burning sands on their camels, but they tell me they only do that for the boys, so I was forced to content myself with the spectacle of ordinary everyday locomotion. However, the Nautch dances and the startling abandon of the Arabesque dance soon engrossed my attention, and I forgot my disappointment in watching Miss Renwood clash her silver cymbals in the wild measures she trod on light-winged feet, and the contortions and gyrations of those supple Daly girls.

And then that supper room! That's where the true conviviality was found, where friend held fellowship with friend, where soft eyes spake love to eyes that spake again, and all went merry as a marriage bell. The *gateaux*, the fruits, the ices, the champagne, the fun, the cheer, the rippling laughter, the toasts, the jest, the flirting—here again Arabia joined hands with America, and found human nature the same the world over.

But underneath all the froth and foam of these tumbling waves of festivity, were there not depths the plummet may not sound ? The Mystic

Shiners undoubtedly know how to enjoy to the uttermost the goods the gods provide. The men who danced and ate and drank and had a royal good time—is their cherished Order nothing more to them than a mere channel of pleasure? Are there no higher emotions stirred by these mystic symbols than those of mere animal gratification?

Ah, yes! Ask any Noble this question, and he will tell you that all this picturesque panoply, these Oriental emblems, these mystic rites, are but outward and visible signs of hidden meanings, which take deep hold on every member's heart, and bring to its surface the best emotions of which humanity is capable. It is, he will tell you, a society which inculcates respect to Deity and love for humanity.

And there's religion in a nutshell. Of course, I am only one woman, and my opinion necessarily does not carry much weight; but I wish there were more such societies, sound of theory and serious of purpose, but ready at special seasons to give care to the winds, and contribute to the sad, bad, mad old world's eternal hunger for beauty and amusement.

I wondered, as I sat in my box at the ball that night, and looked down on that parterre of blossoms, on those moonbeam rays of light, on that restless, happy throng, on the ensemble of color and beauty and grace, if somewhere amid the crowd there did not wander a gentle ghost, smiling contentedly at all the happiness which he was instrumental in bringing to so many hearts. While he lived, he diffused kindness and love like light about him; he loved beauty, color and good cheer; he loved the Order which he brought out of the mysterious and solemn East to the welcoming West. And if it is ever permitted to departed spirits to revisit their accustomed haunts, who shall doubt that the genial shade of poor Billy Florence did not glide through the glittering throng that night?

But the dream of Oriental splendor fades. The enchanting vision dies away. The lights grow dim. The floor is strewn with expiring roses. One by one the lovely, weary women depart. The revelry is over. The feast is done. The inexorable law, that all sweet experiences must come to an end, is as remorseless here as everywhere else in the great, vast, sandy desert of life.

However,

Attention, Illustrious Nobles!

Another year will dawn! The hospitality of the Oasis of Mecca is unbounded. An Arabic greeting will await you. Under the palms of Mecca, you will rest awhile, and sip nectar without stint. There no evil spirits will molest you, and the bewitching glances of the dark-eyed Houris will not fail you.

"Es salamu aleikum!"

EDITH SESSIONS TUPPER.